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IZVESTIYA EDITORIAL URGES NUCLEAR TEST BAN

PM231649 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "No Nuclear Tests!"]

[Text] The logic of events has brought to the fore the problem of banning all nuclear tests as one of the most urgent and important problems in terms of safeguarding our planet's peaceful future.

Nuclear tests are, as it were, constantly adding grist to the mill of the leading imperialist countries' military-industrial complexes. Is that not why, despite the Soviet Union's urgent appeal, Washington did not consent in 1963 to a total ban on all nuclear tests, but left itself some leeway in the shape of underground explosions? The treaty signed that year in Moscow by the Soviet Union, the United States, and Britain is a partial one, envisaging the prohibition of such tests in the atmosphere, in space, and underwater.

But it was a success for the peace-loving forces. As a result, it was possible to considerably reduce the scale of the ruinous effect of these "experiments" on people's health in all countries and to prevent serious environmental pollution.

The struggle for a radical solution to the problem of prohibition of nuclear tests goes on and on. Trying to do all it can to promote the cause of disarmament, the Soviet Union is making a consistent effort to ensure that a complete ban on nuclear weapon tests is the starting point for curbing the mass destruction weapon production race. The wide-ranging new Soviet proposals on a range of disarmament issues give prominence to the cessation of nuclear weapons tests.

The Soviet Union is extending by 3 months its unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions, which was announced on 6 August last year and lasted until 1 January 1986. The moratorium will continue to operate in the future if the United States also stops its nuclear tests.

It was not an easy decision. Is it possible to go on indefinitely displaying restraint in a sphere affecting vital security interests? But the stakes are too high, the responsibility is too great for us not to explore every opportunity to influence others by force of example.

The world community, in the shape of the United Nations at the last session of the General Assembly, has demonstrated its opposition to nuclear tests with renewed force by adopting a resolution calling for an immediate general test ban. The only dissenters were the United States, Britain, and France -- powers which are continuing these tests.

Responding to the new Soviet proposals, U.S. President Reagan advocated the elimination of mass destruction weapons. A complete nuclear test ban would be a good start. So why is the U.S. Administration opposing such a step? At first Washington tried to mislead the public by giving the impression that the USSR had some kind of "advantage" over the United States in the sphere of nuclear tests. A rudimentary comparison of the facts reveals how false these claims are: The United States has conducted more nuclear tests than the USSR.

Subsequently, they changed their tune across the ocean and began to plead "difficulties in verifying" the observance of a complete ban on such tests. A few months ago, President Reagan declared that ending nuclear tests would be acceptable to the United States if measures of inspection and on-site verification were feasible.

However, what was presented as some kind of "obstacle" by the official agencies across the ocean does not exist in practice. Only people who want neither inspection, nor verification, nor a nuclear test ban as such are likely to try to cloud this issue.

The Soviet Union has confirmed and is confirming in the most unequivocal terms its readiness for effective verification, including international verification, for the sake of imposing an effective ban on all nuclear tests. There has been a great international reaction to the readiness expressed by the Soviet Union also to come to an agreement with the United States on measures of on-site verification -- if a mutual moratorium on nuclear explosions is established now -- so that possible doubts about the observance of such a moratorium are eliminated.

The U. S. military's obsession with nuclear weapon tests with a view to improving the "technology of mass destruction" is becoming increasingly obvious now. This is admitted by Pentagon representatives themselves. They also admit that the Pentagon needs these tests for work on space arms.

But what the transatlantic militarist circles regard as "meaningful," the world community regards as an evil that must be eliminated by means of vigorous action.

On the initiative of the Soviet side the problem of a complete nuclear test ban occupied a prominent place during the Soviet-U.S. summit in Geneva. A positive solution of this problem would affect the whole situation very favorably, would greatly change it for the better, and would contribute to the strengthening of trust between the USSR and the United States. After all, Washington's official representatives themselves have pointed out the importance of this trust for the elaboration of joint accords at the Geneva talks.

The Soviet Union will not allow the parity that has been achieved, the equality in the military sphere to be disrupted, and it is capable of upholding its vital interests and the interests of its allies.

There is one sensible solution. It is prompted by life itself: working toward accords which would make it possible to maintain the existing equilibrium in the military sphere at considerably lower levels rather than towards a continued buildup of the most dangerous arms. Nobody stands to lose from this. Everyone will gain. A complete nuclear test ban would be an important step in this direction, a tangible contribution to the realization of mankind's noble dream of a world without wars and without weapons.

U.S. REACTIONS TO GORBACHEV INITIATIVE EXAMINED

U.S. 'Hostility' Criticized

PM231420 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Soldatov dispatch: "Different Approaches"]

[Excerpts] New York -- The comprehensive peace program proposed by the Soviet Union has generated clear interest and mixed feelings in the United States. It has become the touchstone for testing people's attitude to the nuclear threat which looms over mankind.

The administration has treated the new Soviet initiative with ill-concealed apprehension. When the first shock caused by the Soviet proposals (the Republican administration clearly did not expect anything like it) was over, Washington was forced to acknowledge that the Soviet initiatives are comprehensive and far-reaching in character.

But administration representatives then immediately began claiming that the Soviet proposals, on the whole, represent the latest ruse and ploy with which the Soviets want to disarm the West, above all the United States, and achieve unilateral advantages. And what the United States would not do under any circumstances was immediately announced. The list formulated by White House press spokesman L. Speakes is noteworthy.

The administration, he stated, is against stopping nuclear explosions because it "regards the Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests with suspicion, since the Soviets declared a moratorium in the past and then breached it. We believe we must continue these tests in the interests of our national security." Speakes went on to stress that the United States has no intention of curtailing work in the sphere of the "Strategic Defense Initiative."

Thus, on the one hand, the administration acknowledges the value of the new Soviet proposals and promises to study them carefully. While on the other, it again flatly refuses to join the moratorium on nuclear explosions, which the Soviet Union has extended for a further 3 months, refuses to stop its preparations to implement "star wars," and still charges the Soviet side with "ungentlemanly conduct."

L. Speakes did not act like a gentleman when he stated that the Soviet Union "breached the moratorium on nuclear explosions." The matter was quite different. On 31 March 1958 the Soviet Union declared a unilateral halt to tests of all kinds of atomic and hydrogen weapons. Whereas on 29 December 1959 President D. Eisenhower stated that the United States did not consider itself bound by the moratorium. In 1960 France carried out nuclear weapons tests. The Soviet Union renewed nuclear tests only in September 1961.

The U.S. intention to continue nuclear tests far from indicates a love of peace on the Republican administration's part. The desire to continue work to create [sozdaniye] space strike weapons does, however, contradict the White House's public statements about a desire to avoid nuclear catastrophe.

The new Soviet proposals have quite a few adversaries here, who are trying to compromise them in every way. Some, for example, state that the Soviet initiatives are unrealistic and a fantasy, since, it is said, it is impossible to destroy or ban what has already been created. They also resort to other not very sophisticated ploys designed to cast aspersions on the Soviet Union and its initiatives. Voices are heard demanding that the Soviet Union "demonstrate its sincerity" and take "concrete steps" to show its "good intentions".

These kinds of demands, which border on interference in the USSR's internal affairs, are dragged out of the archives whenever there is a possibility of reaching an agreement on reducing international tension and improving relations between the Soviet Union and the United States.

Least of all, however, do they talk in official circles about the real reasons for their hostility to the Soviet peace program. They were revealed, perhaps unwittingly, by a high-ranking Pentagon official in conversation with journalists. He acknowledged that the U.S. leaders "do not know whether they want to find themselves in a world where nuclear weapons do not exist. If they do not want that," he continued, "the NATO countries must stop feigning and pretending that they favor the destruction of nuclear weapons and openly state that their strategy continues to be based on nuclear deterrence."

That is indeed what is at the bottom of it.

U.S. Response Causes 'Mixed Feelings'

PM221010 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent A. Palladin report: "Faced with Choice"]

[Excerpts] Washington -- In an interview which I obtained for IZVESTIYA just before the New Year, well-known science fiction writer Isaac Asimov expressed the hope that mankind would be delivered from nuclear weapons in the 21st century at least. Now the Americans have heard from the mouth of the Soviet leader a gradual, but most important, a realistic plan to achieve this goal by the year 2000.

Washington's first reaction rouses mixed feelings, especially as the White House -- patently not without intent -- is speaking in various voices. For the second day in a row, the President -- carefully choosing his words -- has expressed general satisfaction at the USSR's new manifestation of devotion to the cause of peace and disarmament, although he has permitted himself to interpret Soviet foreign policy extremely freely.

U.S. Secretary of State Shultz is even more restrained in his remarks. What is more, in a speech on ABC television he resorted to hackneyed formulas, describing the new Soviet proposals as "propaganda."

Weinberger took his customary position on the right wing. The Pentagon boss, who on the eve of the Geneva summit meeting warned his President against the slightest show of political realism, this time assumed the role of chief critic of the Soviet initiatives too eagerly. He especially dislikes the idea of abandoning the preparations for "star wars." Many people here believe that it is this approach of Weinberger's that still has the upper hand in the White House. Though, according to R. Reagan, the U.S. Administration intends to carefully study the proposals from Moscow, Washington has already taken decisions on the two most important problems -- if we are to believe local radio and television. The question of the "Strategic Defense Initiative" is not even open to discussion, they say. There is no hope either that the United States will finally join the Soviet moratorium on all nuclear explosions.

Ultraconservative U.S. circles, which cannot bear any mention of international detente, continue their attempts to nip in the bud any hope of lessening tension. THE WASHINGTON TIMES, the mouthpiece of the "hawks," is quick to try to predetermine the White House's definitive response, writing that the USSR's new peace initiatives "will scarcely be accepted by the United States ever." As proof it quotes the remarks of a certain Barry (Blechman), who predicts: "There will be no elimination of nuclear weapons, because this is impossible. So we will have to learn to coexist with these weapons."

Broad circles of the public prefer a different kind of coexistence -- peaceful coexistence based on detente and disarmament.

Key Issues Avoided

LD231513 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 23 Jan 86

[From the "Workers Movement" program presented by Bronislav Myakota]

[Excerpt] It is natural that throughout the world people are awaiting Washington's reply to the new Soviet foreign policy actions. For it is precisely the USSR and the United States that should show an example to the other nuclear powers and start the process of nuclear disarmament.

A whole range of questions connected with the complex of Soviet proposals was put to U.S. President Reagan during his conversation with correspondents in the White House. The head of the U.S. Administration replied: We are very grateful for this proposal and we are studying it in great detail. This is virtually the first time that a genuine elimination of nuclear weapons has been proposed.

Undoubtedly the broad scale and multifaceted nature of the Soviet initiatives requires a certain amount of time for analysis in order to elaborate one's detailed attitude to them. Therefore, the statement by a representative of official Washington that the program proposed by the USSR is being studied in detail has considerable importance.

However, one is already being put on guard by the avoidance of the proposal not to permit the creation, testing, and deployment of strike space armaments and on ceasing the testing of nuclear weapons. Neither the head of the White House nor the U.S. state secretary have uttered a single word about these basic questions of the Soviet initiatives.

Politicians Must Take Stand

LD182235 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Commentary by APN political observer Gennadiy Gerasimov; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Hello comrades! The Soviet Union is proposing that mankind should enter the 21st century having left nuclear weapons to the military historians. On learning of this, one politician said: Why wait until the end of the century? Well, probably, if nuclear disarmament is reached earlier, no one will object. But quite a bit depends precisely on this politician, because his name is Ronald Reagan. Reagan also remembered that he had already called for the elimination of nuclear weapons in 1983 when he spoke in the Japanese parliament. Official Washington even claims to have been first to put the proposal, although it is easy to show that our country has been in favor of banning nuclear weapons from the very beginning, when the United States was still feeling dizzy from its nuclear monopoly. And what the U.S. President said in the Japanese parliament was merely in the nature of a good wish. Now Soviet proposals have appeared which, and I quote, differ from everything that we have heard in the past; for the first time someone has proposed the actual elimination of nuclear weapons. And these are Reagan's words again.

Well, I think praise is all well and good, but support for the Soviet proposals is better. I hope that the majority of Americans expect such support from Washington. But there are also in America two detachments of nuclear disarmament opponents behind which the military-industrial complex hides. The first detachment is openly against: take, for example, Zbigniew Brzezinski, who was adviser on national security for President Jimmy Carter. In his opinion it is precisely nuclear weapons which made the world a safer place to live in, because they restrain the aggressor. Without such weapons, he says, the chances of wars breaking out using conventional arms would increase. Here, of course, that part of the Soviet proposals concerning the coordinated reduction of conventional weapons and of armed forces is left out; we are ready to negotiate the reduction of any weapons.

The second detachment of opponents of nuclear disarmament, who are not so open and do not come out with their visors up, have penetrated the highest echelons of power in Washington. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has already stated that the Pentagon will continue to conduct nuclear explosions. They are necessary, to use his expression, for the modernization of the U.S. nuclear arsenal. But there is no sense, and there is no logic either, in occupying oneself with modernization if one sets as one's aim the elimination of nuclear weapons.

It is simpler to eliminate the current, perfect weapons, than tomorrow's, even more perfect, weapons.

The same applies to the "star wars" plans. If the aim of the so-called SDI is the creation of an antimissile defense, then what is the purpose of this defense if missiles are going to be destroyed? There is no reason. A reason appears if other tasks are set: the tasks of creating space strike weapons, including weapons with nuclear components.

The Soviet proposals threaten to expose those politicians who demonstrate the wish, but lack the intention. The moment of truth has come, which forces politicians to define their attitude finally, both to nuclear weapons and to the future of mankind.

Specific Response Urged

LD201855 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Commentary by Igor Kudrin; from "The World Today" program]

[Excerpts] Hello, comrades. Exactly 5 days ago, on the evening of 15 January, the whole world knew about the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Everyone awaited the reaction from Washington. It came promptly, but it was streamlined, unspecific, and I would say, a sort of wait-and-see [vyzhidatelnyy] reaction. On the day the statement was published President Reagan was introducing a new program titled partnership in the matter of childhood protection. However, the journalists who were present at the official ceremony hurried to ask him questions about the new Soviet initiatives. Reagan was extremely brief and careful in what he said. We are very grateful for this proposal. We are studying it extremely closely. Are you enthusiastic about Gorbachev's statement? The head of the White House replied to this question as follows: Yes, this is virtually the first time the complete liquidation of nuclear weapons has been proposed. We must study the Soviet document closely, analyze and discuss all its details, the White House press spokesman said.

Well, what can you say, this is perfectly natural. Such a document of extreme importance, a document which is serious and profound, demands just such an attitude. Only let the process of deliberation, analysis, and discussion not take too long. Time does not wait, especially as our moratorium extends for another 3 months and as the Soviet Union is proposing that the implementation of the program to free mankind from the fear of a nuclear catastrophe be commenced even this year. Moreover, even now there is alarm at statements being made by people in the President's circle to the effect that the United States will not waive its "star wars" program at any cost, and that nuclear tests in the country will be continued.

The time is ripe to check the deeds of those who love to speak from high platforms about the spirit of Geneva. We shall see whether they refer to the Geneva accord just for effect or whether they are ready to serve detente, mutual understanding, and curbing the arms race in a concrete way.

SOVIET OFFICIALS DISCUSS ASPECTS OF INITIATIVE

Tolkunov on European View

LD210011 Moscow TASS in English 2106 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 20 TASS -- "Europe can and should fulfil a special mission -- to build a new edifice of detente.

It is a firmly held view of the Soviet public that this idea formulated in the recent statement made by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, will gain strong backing of the nations of Europe," Lev Tolkunov, chairman of the Soviet Committee for Security and Cooperation in Europe, told a TASS correspondent.

It is not happenstance, he went on, that a considerable part of the new Soviet initiatives aimed at averting the threat of nuclear war and establishing a durable peace is addressed directly to Europe. Through the fault of imperialist quarters it is literally stuffed with nuclear weapons. There are about 7,000 U.S. nuclear munitions in Western Europe, not to mention British and French systems. Nuclear-armed aircraft carriers and guided missile submarines of the U.S. permanently cruise on the seas and oceans surrounding the continent.

However, Western strategists think that all this is not enough to counter the alleged Soviet "military threat", Lev Tolkunov went on to say. The deployment of U.S. Pershing and cruise missiles continues in NATO countries. The total number of these missiles stationed in Great Britain, West Germany, Italy and Belgium, according to Washington's official figures, has already reached 140.

"In that explosive situation our country," Lev Tolkunov stressed, proposes to get rid of nuclear arsenals, to cut the Gordian knot. The Europeans will see a realistic posibility for the complete elimination -- as early as at the first stage of implementation of the U.S.S.R.-proposed plan -- of the intermediate-range missiles of the Soviet Union and the U.S. in the European zone as a first step toward ridding the continent of nuclear weapons completely."

The U.S.S.R., Lev Tolkunov stressed, "shows an example that efforts to eliminate the threat of nuclear war should make themselves felt above all in concrete steps promoting disarmament. We urge the people of goodwill, our partners abroad, public organizations, political parties, scientific and educational establishments to study Soviet proposals carefully and express their attitude to them."

"Our committee and members of the Soviet public who support if express the readiness to take part in joint and parallel actions of all peace forces with a view to bringing about a sharp turn from the policy of military confrontation to the policy of peace, goodneighborliness and cooperation," Lev Tolkunov emphasized.

SDI Program Must Stop

LD171707 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1610 GMT 17 Jan 86

[By Tom Mcmulland, PA diplomatic correspondent]

[Text] President Reagan must halt the "star wars" programme if Soviet proposals for ridding the world of nuclear weapons are to proceed, a senior official at the Soviet Embassy in London said today.

The Soviet leader Mr Mikhail Gorbachev this week suggested scrapping all nuclear weapons by the year 2000. A press conference was called at the Soviet Embassy to explain the background to Mr Gorbachev's proposals, which have been welcomed by Mr Reagan. In London, the Foreign Office said the suggestions contained some new elements and were being studied.

Mr Guennadi Chabannikov, press attache at the embassy, said the Soviet Union could not accept the testing, development and deployment of "star wars" technology. "It will ruin any efforts in the field of nuclear disarmament.

"You cannot do the two things together," he said. "We see no reason for the deployment of outer space strike weapons while everyone is engaged in the reduction and elimination of nuclear weapons. It is said that the outer space strike weapons will make nuclear weapons obsolete or useless. Why such a complicated way of doing things?'

Mr Chabannikov indicated, however, that even without a U.S. commitment to abandon its "star wars" proposals the Soviets were still ready to negotiate on intermediate range nuclear weapons. He said Mr Gorbachev's proposals are likely to be discussed when a Soviet deputy foreign minister Mr Nikita Ryzhkov visits London next week, even though the visit is meant to deal mainly with bilateral issues.

PRIMAKOV ANALYZES GORBACHEV DISAMAMENT PROPOSALS

PM231250 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[Article by Academician Ye. Primakov: "Way to the Future"]

[Text] Last week the Soviet Union put forward large-scale multifaceted peace initiatives. They are set out in the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Basically, it is a program to eliminate the threat of an all-destructive war.

The historical period in which mankind is living is characterized by an exceptionally serious threat of war looming over the world and, at the same time, by a more realistic possibility than ever before of eliminating this threat.

By the middle of the eighties the departure from the policy of reducing international tension had reached its peak. Through the fault of reactionary imperialist circles, primarily the United States, the world had moved very close to the point which, if crossed, would threaten the total annihilation of human civilization. What is more, even drawing near this point is fraught with great danger -- a further increase in the tension in relations between the USSR and the United States could create an uncontrollable situation, chaos in international relations and, ultimately, make the threat of their universal destabilization irreversible.

The April (1985) CPSU Central Committee Plenum adopted a course aimed at speeding up the country's socioeconomic development and effecting a resolute turnaround in the most diverse spheres of social relations.

Naturally, the implementation of this course required a stable international situation and new efforts to halt the arms race. Our party has always worked to create an international climate most favorable to socialist and communist building. This time, however, it is a question of a particularly pressing necessity emanating both from the scale of the tasks set by the plenum and from the logic of developing the "external environment" in which these tasks must be resolved.

Indeed, never before has the necessity for a turnaround toward the normalization of international relations been so urgent. Never before has the question arisen so sharply of the necessity for state figures to realistically evaluate the danger of the processes taking place in international life, the necessity to establish a new kind of political thinking in the practice of international life.

During the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, noted a number of the principled features of the kind of political thinking demanded by present-day realities.

First, understanding is required of the dialectical connection between the division of the world into two parts -- socialist and capitalist -- developing according to their own laws and the continuing unity of the world. This unity is reflected not only in the definite interdependence of the two systems' states in the economic sphere and not only in their objective interest in resolving tasks common to all mankind -- environmental protection, the search for fundamentally new energy sources, the struggle against hunger and disease, and so forth. This unity is not mainly reflected in the fact that, fact to face with the threat of a thermonuclear catastrophe, mankind has realized: The problem of its survival has arisen.

Back at the dawn of the first socialist state's existence V.I. Lenin spoke of the priority of the interests of social development. It was he who drew the conclusion about the continuing world economy and about the possibility and necessity of peaceful coexistence between the socialist state and capitalist states, which includes as an important element their constructive cooperation in various spheres. Given the existence of the present mass destruction weapons and the threat of a nuclear missile war, and in conditions where mankind's survival and civilization's further progress depend on the joint efforts of states with different social systems within the framework of a dual world, the Leninist theory of peaceful coexistence acquires very great significance.

Second, the nature of politicians' new way of thinking must incorporate the necessity to recognize the existence of different countries' objective interests, to seek areas where these interests coincide, and to then act with the aim of bringing them closer together. From this stems the obligation to observe measures guaranteeing the mutual security of the two largest nuclear powers -- the Soviet Union and the United States -- and that of the Warsaw Pact states and the NATO countries, on which general world security also largely depends. The military and strategic parity between the USSR and the United States and between the Warsaw Pact and NATO is such an instrument. The Soviet Union proceeds from the premise that the existing parity in the arms level must be consistently lowered while preserving the sides' equal security at all stages without fail.

The appeal to the United States to renounce its representation of the Soviet Union's interests as being totally at variance with the interests of the United States follows from this clear idea of the mechanism of maintaining mutual security. Of course, the contradicatory nature of the interests of the two powers acting as the leaders of opposite systems cannot be either ignored or passed over in silence. Nevertheless, there is one sphere where this contradictoriness and even this state of opposition cannot be raised to the absolute. This is the sphere of security. Under present conditions, the weakening of one side's security runs counter to the interests of the other. By arousing suspicion in it and urging it in the direction of a further acceleration of the arms race, it can lead to the creation of an even more unstable situation.

Relying on this realistic interpretation of the correlation of Soviet and U.S. interests, it is not difficult to foresee which decisions are capable of leading to an increase in international tension. Just such a ruinous decision would be U.S. implementation of the so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative" or, to be more precise, preparation for "star wars," which would remove the last obstacles from the path of an unrestrained and uncontrolled arms race.

Third, an important element of the new type of political thinking is the necessity to cease viewing events taking place in the world through the prism of U.S.-Soviet confrontation. When a revolutionary situation arises in the course of the historical process in one country or another and the people assume power, this has nothing in common with the mythical "activity of Moscow," which supposedly plants anti-U.S. regimes.

It should also be noted that revolutionary governments are not inclined against Washington automatically -- this is their reaction to U.S. support for counterrevolution.

Nicaragua serves as a convincing example. Any unbiased observer reaches the conclusion that the Sandinist government assumed power as a result of a popular revolution and that it enjoys the support of the majority of the country's population.

Despite this, the United States has begun an undeclared war against Nicaragua guided by false logic: Everything that does not submit to U.S. diktat is directed against U.S. interests and is a component part of U.S. confrontation with the USSR. By building up tension, this approach -- which relates not only to Nicaragua, but also to the situation around Afghanistan and events in the Near East and southern Africa -- could become the detonator of new and powerful explosions, whose pernicious consequences go far beyond the bounds of "local conflicts."

On the other hand, realistic appraisal of the real causes of various regional conflicts is important for joint or parallel measures to be taken by the two powers aimed at creating favorable conditions for the purpose of settling these conflicts.

Creating an atmosphere of mutual trust between the Soviet Union and the United States is of great significance for untying international knots. Soviet-U.S. summit meetings are expected to play an important role here. The "moments of truth" which arise with such meetings create a potential whose realization will provide considerable incentive for progress to be made in the cause of peace and international security. All the indications are that the next meeting between the top USSR and U.S. leadership will be held this year. The time left before it must be filled with actions which would begin to establish a new kind of political thinking.

Specific ways of realizing a new type of political thinking are defined in the statement by the CPSU Central Committee general secretary. It advances proposals for truly major, large-scale foreign policy actions aimed at cardinally improving the entire international situation and safeguarding peace in the 21st century.

These proposals form an integral complex. It is primarily a question of eliminating mass destruction means. The most significant measure in this sphere in terms of its importance is the program for the total elimination of nuclear weapons throughout the world. These proposals also formulate the task of totally eliminating another barbaric type of weapon -- chemical weapons. It is also proposed that agreement be reached on also banning all non-nuclear means of waging war which, by virtue of their strike capacity, approximate the characteristics of mass destruction weapons. A system of measures to reduce conventional arms and armed forces is simultaneously proposed. It goes without saying that all the measures must be accompanied by a pledge not to create, test, or deploy space-based strike weapons.

Never in the past has any state come forward with such a broad and detailed multi-faceted set of proposals whose implementation would virtually close all doors to the arms race. Also for the first time in history, not only are the aims proclaimed, but the time frame for their phased achievement is also defined, which is particularly important in relation to the total elimination of nuclear weapons -- it is planned to do this in three stages over the course of the 15 years remaining until the end of this century.

The USSR's proposals are specific, constructive, and realistic. They take into account the security interests of the USSR, the United States, and also other states, nuclear and non-nuclear.

They take into account the broad range of different opinions and arguments voiced by statesmen and public movements of various political hues. Responding to the appeal of peace-loving organizations in the West and striving to use every possibility to influence the position of the United States, the Soviet Union has, for example, taken the none too simple [ne prostoye dlya sebya] decision to extend for another 3 months its unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions.

The sum of the proposals put forward in the statement of the CPSU Central Committee general secretary politically and morally disarm those who, by falsifying reality, have tried to discredit the USSR in the eyes of world public opinion and to thereby justify the U.S. course of an arms race coupled with its transfer into space.

Of particular significance in this respect is the USSR's detailed [razvernutyy] position on the question of verification. The statement clearly says that, in the event of a specific accord on questions of arms reduction, the Soviet Union, being no less interested in verification than the United States, is prepared to establish the most effective forms of verification.

As is well known, the United States has tried in the past to instill in the public the idea of the Soviet Union's "closed nature," which supposedly makes verification of agreements on disarmament problems impossible. There were no grounds for such speculation earlier. Now it is essentially impossible. How can one justify to public opinion, for example, the U.S. refusal to follow the USSR and declare a moratorium on nuclear explosions, when the Soviet Union is also prepared for international forms of verification and for on-site inspection? Or how can one justify the negative U.S. approach to the proposal to eliminate industrial capacities for the manufacture of chemical weapons and stockpiles of these weapons when the USSR is prepared, on a mutual basis, to declare the locations of its enterprises which produce these weapons and to establish reliable verification both of the destruction of these weapons and of the dismantling of these enterprises, including international on-site verification in this case also? The same question can also be raised with regard to verification of the elimination of medium-range missiles and verification of observance of the ban on space-based strike weapons to the point of opening up the corresponding laboratories for inspection.

By including a program for the elimination of nuclear weapons, the Soviet proposals knock the ground from beneath the feet of those who, contrary to common sense, intend to carry out preparations for "star wars." In publicizing SDI Washington has tried to present the matter in such a way as to make it seem that rendering nuclear weapons unnecessary is all but its main aim. Instead of creating [sozdaniye] new and extremely dangerous weapons in space, the Soviet Union has proposed eliminating nuclear weapons themselves. Thus, it is proposed to begin the realization of new political approaches to international affairs. The Soviet Union, as its new peace initiatives show, is intensively traveling its part of the way. Now it is up to the United States.

NUCLEAR TESTING BAN SEEN AS 'FIRST STEP'

LD232036 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Political observer Nikolay Shishlin commentary]

[Text] As is known, at the center of the announcement by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Sergeyvich Gorbachev is the problem of the elimination of nuclear arms by the start of the 21st century.

But what has been said about the time table for the realization of a large-scale, comprehensive Soviet plan for peace and disarmament does not mean that establishing calmer, more reasonable relations between states must be postponed until some distant date. First of all, there is the possibility of taking practical steps toward nuclear disarmmament even in these coming years which should, of course, be facilitated by a clear binding accord on the nontransferral of the arms race into space. Secondly, the international atmosphere will improve practically without delay if agreement can successfully be reached between the USSR and the United States and then, between all nuclear states on a full halt to nuclear tests. As you know comrades, on 1 January 1986 the time allotted for the unilateral Soviet moratorium expired. And if the USSR acted in keeping with established sterotypes than guided by the interests of its own security it could probably resume testing immediately; such actions would be justified. But too much is at stake today to act in keeping with the usual pattern born from the logic of military confrontation. The USSR has chosen a different path, a different type of action. The Soviet moratorium on any nuclear explosions has been extended until 31 March 1986.

What would the halting of all nuclear tests give in the military-technical sense? First of all, the channels for further improving nuclear arms would be blocked. The accumulated nuclear arsenals would start to become morally obsolete and their significance would gradually become worthless. However, it is even more essential that, on the political level, a halt to nuclear tests would have a beneficial effect immediately, both on USSR-U.S. relations and on international relations as a whole. This would be a breakthrough of confidence. Right now as we examine the first reactions of the United States to this important point in the announcement of the Soviet leader it is impossible not to say that a great deal makes us wary. Washington prefers to create more and more new fairy tales about the imaginary U.S. lag behind the USSR, including in the nuclear field, and they are in no hurry to carefully analyse the Soviet proposals and reply to them with the same goodwill which the USSR demonstrated. The road to freeing the earth from nuclear arms begins with the first step. And it is the deep conviction of the USSR that such a first step could indeed be a halt to all nuclear tests.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS SESSION HELD IN GENEVA

LD232101 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1239 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Geneva, 23 Jan (TASS) -- A session of the group on medium-range weapons took place here today within the framework of Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons.

CEMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DISCUSSES PLAN FULFILLMENT

LD232108 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1747 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, 23 Jan (TASS) -- The 118th session of the CEMA Executive Committee took place on 21-23 January in Moscow.

In the communique adopted at the session support is expressed for the new major foreign policy initiative of the Soviet Union which is contained in the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee -- the program for the liquidation of nuclear weapons throughout the world with the prohibition of space-strike weapons, for the prohibition and liquidation of chemical weapons, and for a fundamental improvement in the international situation. The realization of this program will make it possible to divert enormous material resources for the well being of the peoples.

The initial measures were defined for the practical fulfillment of the Comprehensive Program of Scientific and Technological Progress of the CEMA Member Countries by the Year 2000, which was adopted at the 41st (extraordinary) sitting of the CEMA session. [as received]

The progress in implementing the general agreements on developing a single unified base for the products of electronic technology, for microprocessor technology and industrial robot technology was reviewed.

The state of cooperation in the chemical industry over the past 5-Year Plan was reviewed at the session. The task for the future expansion of the production of new polymer materials, including those for microelectronics; of chemical additives for improving technological processes in the textile, light and other branches of industry; of progressive means for the chemical defense of plants, and, based on this, the implementation of measures to improve the quality and to extend the mutual deliveries of chemical products is of prime importance.

The Executive Committee confirmed the work plan for 1986-87, the plan of measures to implement CEMA contacts with international economic and scientific and technological organizations for 1986, and the CEMA budget for the current year.

Other questions of the cooperation of the CEMA member countries were reviewed at the session.

The session took place in an atmosphere of friendship and comradely cooperation.

NATO HEAD REJECTS NUCLEAR TEST MORATORIUM

LD210014 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1955 GMT 20 Jan 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Text] NATO Secretary General Lord Carrington has rejected the moratorium ceasing any nuclear tests that has been proposed by the Soviet Union. Speaking in Brussels to the International Association of Students, he explained this categorical rejection by the need for defence of the countries of the West.

PRAVDA ROUNDS UP REACTION TO GORBACHEV PROPOSAL

PM171645 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[Reports by own correspondents V. Gerasimov, V. Gan, Yu. Yakhontov, and A Maslennikov under the general heading: "The Real Path to Disarmament and Peace. The World's General Public Is Eagerly Examining and Discussing the Soviet Land's Impressive New Initiatives"]

[Text] Budapest, 16 Jan -- "Entering the 3d Millennium Without Mass Destruction Weapons" is the headline used by NEPSZABADSAG for the full text of the Soviet disarmament program. All the other central newspapers also print this important document of our era in full and devote editorials and editorial articles to it.

"The Soviet package of proposals springs from today's realities," the MSZMP Central Committee organ writes in an editorial article. "The burden of responsibility for further steps rests on the shoulders of the United States and the other nuclear powers. It is simply impossible not to accent the Soviet proposals."

"The USSR's new initiative is fascinating to anyone who has a sense of responsibility for the future of mankind," Imre Pozsgay, member of the MSZMP Central Committee and general secretary of the Hungarian Patriotic People's Front National Council, said. "CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev is speaking on behalf of the entire Soviet people and all people of good will. He presents promising prospects which offer the hope that nuclear and chemical weapons will be removed from military arsenals by the end of the century. There is another important fact. The new Soviet proposals also envisage cutting conventional armaments. These new initiatives express the Soviet land's confidence in its own strength and its commitment to peaceful building. If mankind is relieved of the arms burden it will open up unprecedented possibilities for the flourishing of people's creative abilities."

Belgrade, 16 Jan -- "Into the 21st Century Without Nuclear Weapons," "A Plan for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons -- it is under these headlines that the leading Yugoslav papers today publish reports from Moscow on the range of new Soviet peace initiatives.

The paper POLITIKA gives a detailed account of the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's statement, noting: The main aim of the Soviet disarmament program is that mankind should enter the 3d millennium without nuclear weapons, without fear of the nuclear bomb. The proposals published yesterday, POLITIKA continues, were essentially a call for an immediate start on eliminating nuclear armaments. The paper BORBA, organ of the Socialist Alliance of Working People of Yugoslavia, names as the first step in the implementation of this program the USSR's decision to extend for a further 3 months the unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions, which gives the United States the chance to reassess its position.

The Yugoslav press highlights the statement's conclusion that the adoption of the Soviet program cannot do anyone any harm; in fact, everyone would benefit. The Soviet proposals place the USSR and the United States on equal terms. The paper pays special attention to the USSR's firm and consistent stance to the effect that the total elimination of nuclear weapons can only be achieved if the arms race does not spread to space.

Washington, 16 Jan -- Great was the Washingtonians' amazement when Russian suddenly started issuing from their radios today. The news speeding in from the USSR was so important that the capital's radio stations considered it their duty to include excerpts from the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's statement, read out on Soviet television, in their news bulletins. "The Soviet Union's great new plan," "Moscow has put forward a radical disarmament program" -- U.S. correspondents used these words to preface their accounts of the range of peace initiatives put forward by our country, unprecedented in its scope and depth and in terms of its significance for the whole of mankind. The reports from Moscow immediately overshadowed and took precedence over all other news. They were the lead items in the reviews of the most important events of the day on all three major national television networks in the United States. They are the lead stories in the top U.S. newspapers which have just been published.

The first official reaction from the U.S. Administration was on the whole one of approbation, although it caused some bewilderment. A statement by U.S. President R. Reagan, published by the White House, welcomed the Soviet proposals, expressing the hope that they marked a "further promising step in the process" of efforts to achieve the ultimate goal -- the elimination of nuclear weapons. "Together with our allies we will carefully study General Secretary Gorbachev's proposals," the statement points out.

At the same time, one was struck by the White House's obvious attempt to somehow limit the public response to the new Soviet proposals and to pretend that the United States, and not the Soviet Union, is leading the sincere and honest quest for general security and peace. For example, can the presidential statement's listing of old U.S. "initiatives," which have been assessed even by U.S. specialists as unacceptable to the USSR because they are unfair and one-sided, mean anything else?

Speaking on ABC television, Secretary of State G. Shultz took a similar line in assessing the new Soviet program. While, on the one hand, reiterating the President's words about the "constructive nature" of the proposals, he expressed so many reservations that the announcer was forced to remark: "You sound equivocal." In the end, under pressure of irrefutable arguments, the secretary of state saw fit to say: "We advocate the elimination of nuclear armaments. Therefore we welcome these proposals. It is a big and complex subject, and we want to study it carefully and discuss it at the Geneva talks. Our first response is that we welcome them."

In contrast to senior representatives of the administration, who often prefer the propaganda game to common sense and the demands of life, the Americans your correspondent has talked with today were unequivocal in their opinions and assessments. "It is a step in the right direction, it is the approach we want. The movement of U.S. peace-loving forces wholly supports this action program," (D. Kestetter), national coordinator of the Washington peace center, said. (J. Wells), executive director of the well-known "Physicians for Social Responsibility" organization, expressed profound satisfaction. "The declared aims deserve every support and it is to be hoped that the talks are successful," she noted.

Bonn, 16 Jan -- Late last night FRG radio and television were informing the country's populace about CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev's statement.

The capital's GENERAL-ANZEIGER, regarded as the semiofficial organ of the Bonn Foreign Ministry, and the FRANFURTER ALLGEMEINE, which has the backing of big industrial and financial capital, contain accounts of the Soviet leader's statement. It is published on the front pages under big headlines.

GENERAL-ANZEIGER prints in boldface the main proposals contained in the statement. The paper gives a detailed account of the part of the document about the stage-by-stage destruction of nuclear weapons and Soviet and U.S. mutual renunciation of the development [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment of space strike weapons.

Both papers draw attention to the USSR's willingness to do everything necessary to implement appropriate verification of the reduction and elimination of nuclear arsenals and of the prevention of the militarization of space.

This morning your correspondent got in touch with the FRG Foreign Ministry to ask the minister, H.-D. Genscher, to give his first impressions of M.S. Gorbachev's statement. A ministry press department aide replied that, since the document contains a large number of important proposals, they are currently being studied both by the minister and by the ministry apparatus. As soon as the study is complete the Foreign Ministry's viewpoint will be announced.

London, 16 Jan -- The USSR's concrete and comprehensive program to rid the earth of nuclear weapons is the main topic of foreign policy commentaries in the British press. Giving front-page accounts of the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's statement, local papers point out that it provides a concrete and chronologically clearly defined plan to deliver mankind from the threat of nuclear destruction.

On the eve of the start of a new round of Geneva talks, THE GUARDIAN writes, the Soviet Union has again taken the initiative and put forward a 15-year program envisaging a state-by-stage, consistent process to rid the planet of nuclear weapons.

"CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev," MORNING STAR foreign department editor R. Trask writes in the paper, "has put forward a bold program for the elimination of all nuclear weapons over the next 15 years." This new Soviet initiative will have great significance for the success of the Geneva nuclear arms talks.

At the same time, nearly all the papers draw attention to the places in the Soviet leader's statement where he speaks of the need for a comprehensive approach, observance of the principle of reciprocity, and active participation by all nuclear powers to solve the problems of eliminating nuclear and other types of mass destruction weapons.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS FOREIGN MINISTRY BRIEFING

PM231447 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "At the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center"]

[Text] A briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists was held at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center 21 January. Representatives of the press were briefed on the USSR's proposals "on the principles for a Cyprus settlement and ways of achieving it."

Questions of stepping up the effectiveness of the principle of the nonuse of force in international relations in connection with the opening in New York 20 January 1986 of the ninth session of the UN special committee were also touched on. Journalists were informed of the Soviet position on this problem.

Emphasis was placed on the USSR's desire to urgently take effective measures aimed at improving the situation in the world, and first and foremost at excluding force from mutual relations between states.

It was noted that by elaborating a declaration on the nonuse of force the special committee would make progress in fulfilling the task entrusted to it by the General Assembly of completing work on a world treaty on the nonuse of force in international relations and thereby creating barriers in the path of the use of force and improving the conditions for the attainment of arms limitation accords.

PRAVDA OBSERVER ON ARMS PROPOSAL; JAPAN, PRC TIES

PM211534 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jan 86 pp 1,3

[A. Baranov and P. Vedenyapin report under the rubric "Direct Line": "The Earth Is Our Common Home. Vsevolod Vladimirovich Ovchinnikov, PRAVDA political observer and USSR state prize winner, conducts a dialogue with readers"]

[Excerpts] [Reader Yelena Lerskaya] Hello, Vsevolod Vladimirovich. My name is Yelena Lerskaya. I am a Muscovite, and I work as a scientific staffer at a research institute.

[Ovchinnikov] Good morning, Yelena.

[Lerskaya] I would like to discuss with you a problem that interests me. As is well known, the United States did not follow the USSR's call to proclaim a moratorium on nuclear explosions. This is not the first peace initiative by our country to fail to meet with a positive response across the ocean. Does this not mean that we are making certain concessions to Washington by assuming unilateral pledges?

[Ovchinnikov] Of course, the very fact of the introduction of the moratorium required daring and a certain amount of risk, like any unilateral steps in the military sphere. It seems to me, however, that you are not quite right to say that we are following a policy of concessions to the United States. In international relations it is sometimes necessary to make a compromise if the objective justifies this. I also think that in this instance the positive influence exerted by our steps on the world public and on U.S. political circles is in itself a factor of considerable importance.

Moreover, as M.S. Gorbachev noted in his statement, "...the stakes are too great and the degree of responsibility too high for us not to explore all opportunities for influencing the stance of others by force of example."

[Lerskaya] Thank you, Vsevolod Vladimirovich. Good-bye.

[Reader Georgiy Zavgorodnev] Good morning, Vsevolod Vladimirovich. My name is Georgiy Fedorovich Zavgorodnev. I am a war veteran living in Volgograd.

[Ovchinnikov] Hello, Georgiy Fedorovich.

[Zavgorodnev] I want to ask your view on the following question. The United States is intensively implementing the SDI program, claiming that it will make strategic offensive missiles unnecessary. Is this really so?

[Ovchinnikov] The simplest way to make strategic offensive missiles unnecessary is to abandon them, to reduce their numbers by one-half initially, and then to proceed step by step toward their complete elimination. This is exactly what the USSR proposes. We are against the "star wars" program precisely because it will lead not to a reduction but to a sharp increase in offensive nuclear arms. As you know, at present the two sides have almost 10,000 warheads each. Thus, even if the "space shield" guarantees 99-percent defense, just 1 percent will be sufficient to destroy the other country's major cities.

In practice, therefore, the program can be conceived only for the purpose of delivering a first strike in order to destroy a considerable part of the Soviet strategic potential and weaken the counterstrike by means of antimissiles. There are, however, other reasons why we are against this program. After all, missiles intended to destroy missiles can also be used to hit any other targets both in space and on earth, in other words, they can also be used for offensive purposes. As you know, we have said that if we fail to convince the United States of the absurdity and danger of the "Strategic Defense Initiative's" implementation, the Soviet Union will find a less expensive and sufficiently effective response.

[Zagorodnev] Many thanks.

[Ovchinnikov] You're welcome, all the best to you.

[Reader Ivan Popesku] "Direct line?"

[Ovchinnikov] Yes. Ovchinnikov speaking.

[Popesku] I'm sorry to bother you, my name is Ivan Popesku, worker at the Kishinev refrigerator plant. I know, Vsevolod Vladimirovich, that you worked for a long time in Japan. The so-called "northern territories" problem exists in Soviet-Japanese relations. What do you think, can it be solved?

[Ovchinnikov] No such problem exists from the Soviet Union's viewpoint. As you know, questions of the postwar structure in the world were solved at the Yalta and Potsdam conferences. The so-called "northern territories" problem was artificially created by the Japanese side in order to block the development of good-neighborly relations with the USSR.

When I was working in Tokyo in the sixties, no farfetched problems obstructed the development of economic relations and cultural ties between our countries. It was only in the early eighties, when the Japanese Government joined in the anti-Soviet sanctions camapign launched by Washington, that the territorial problem was put forward as an absolute condition for the development of relations between Japan and the Soviet Union. This is an absurd point of view. What's the point of making territorial claims against another state. Just imagine if the Soviet Union suddenly said: "We do not recognize the deal done by the tsarist government in selling Alaska to the United States," and then went on to demand its return from the United States.

From our viewpoint, these demands by the Japanese side are an attempt to revise the results of World War II, in other words, a manifestation of revanchism. [Ovchinnikov ends]

In inviting V.V. Ovchinnikov to appear on "Direct Line," we thought that most readers would want to hear his account of what is happening in China today and what changes in comparison with 30 years ago strike someone who worked in Beijing in the fifties. We were not wrong. The range of questions concerning present-day China was exceptionally wide.

Our readers asked about the essence of the economic reforms taking place in the PRC, the changes in politics and ideology, and the attitude of ordinary Chinese to the Soviet Union. These questions were raised by Muscovite A. Lobanov, a student at the Moscow state university, Muscovite A. Bikinin, an installation worker, I. Bokserov, a Komsomol worker from Pyatigorsk, G. Ovchinnikov, a nurse from Maykop, I. Kuzmin, a student from Miass, Chelyabinsk Oblast, M. Pavlov, an engineer from Ryazan, and many others. So here is Vsevolod Vladimirovich Ovchinnikov's answer.

[Ovchinnikov] For me China was the place where I started my journalistic life. I have the warmest memories of the country and its people. True, I was there during the best period in our relations -- the years of the 1st Chinese 5-Year Plan. I returned last year after a long gap. There were many impressions. I will just talk about the main one. It seemed to me that the Chinese are experiencing something akin to the euphoria of recovery. The "great leap forward," the "cultural revolution" -- they cannot remember all that without a shudder. But the nightmare is over. People are breathing easier just from realizing that.

Since 1979 China has embarked on a period of economic reforms. During the "great leap forward" revolutionary enthusiasm was elevated to an absolute and the principle of material interest was wholly rejected. It was condemned as a manifestation of revisionism. But now a shift in a diametriacally opposite direction has emerged.

The gamble is on personal interest, or, more accurately, on private initiative.

The switch to the family contract in the countryside was a manifestation of this. Under conditions of a shortage of arable land and surplus manpower in the countryside, the family contract is seen as a way of increasing agriculture's productivity and improving its marketability. The course has been adopted of concentrating land in the hands of the most "skillful peasants" while the rest engage in secondary trades.

Since the switch to the family contract grain harvests have increased from 290 to 407 million metric tons and cotton harvests have increased from 2 to 6 million metric tons in the last 6 years.

At the same time, however, the encouragement of economic activeness and the spirit of enterprise is fraught with negative side effects, first and foremost social and political ones. A property-based stratification of the peasantry is taking place. Those who are unable to grow rich in permitted ways are tempted to do so otherwise. The Chinese authorities are concerned at the growth in corruption and speculation. Alarming symptoms are also appearing in the economy. The 1985 grain harvest was down to 380 million metric tons from 407 million the year before. The peasants do not want to be grain farmers since it is more profitable to grow fruit or vegetables for sale. Irrigation installations created by collective labor have started falling into disrepair.

The economic reforms in the cities consist of the decentralization of planning, the expansion of enterprises' rights, and of course, the "open door" policy, that is, the gamble on attracting foreign capital and technology as well as qualified engineer cadres. Joint enterprises are being created under this policy and special economic zones are in operation. But the "open door" policy has also had negative side effects. The struggle against "spiritual pollution" is evidence of that. Moreover, the emphasis on decentralization has led to a sharp reduction in foreign currency reserves and a foreign currency reserves and a foreign trade deficit. Recently the Chinese leadership has begun saying more and more often that in encouraging private initiative socialist ideals must not be forgotten and that the slogan "Get rich!" which calls on people to rapidly climb out of poverty and backwardness, does not mean that the ultimate goal, building a socialist society in China, has been abandoned.

A few words about the present state of Soviet-Chinese relations. Briefly, it can be said that the worst is over and things are gradually getting better. Last year was marked by a number of positive events in organizing bilateral ties. There was the first exchange of visits at the deputy head of government level between China and the Soviet Union for a long time and there were also joint visits by parliamentary delegations. Cultural and scientific contacts were stepped up and trade volume increased substantially. Incidentally, in terms of the rate of growth in trade the Soviet Union was the PRC's number one foreign trade partner last year.

Of course, it would be premature to say that anti-Soviet propaganda in China has totally ended. However, the Chinese side no longer makes hostile statements about the Soviet Union's domestic policy. During my recent trip around the PRC I repeatedly heard it said that the Soviet experience -- both our achievements and our shortcomings -- is all very valuable for China, as is the experience of the other socialist countries.

At the same time, the Chinese side continues to take a different position from us on a number of questions. First and foremost this is seen in assessments of the causes of international tension. Beijing claims that the reason for this is the "struggle between the two powers for hegemony." Thus, the United States and the Soviet Union are placed on a par with each other. Needless to say, we cannot agree with that, since this allegation runs counter to the realities of international relations.

Beijing also adopts an unfriendly stance with regard to the USSR, the socialist countries of Indochina, and Afghanistan on questions concerning the situation in the DRA and around Cambodia, where the Chinese leadership continues to support anti-government counterrevolutionary groupings.

At the same time, China has recently started to criticize U.S. policy, particularly in the Near East, South Africa, and Central America, more sharply. As you know, during the Sofia meeting the leaders of the fraternal countries advocated cooperation with the PRC in the struggle against imperialism and the threat of nuclear war and for the strengthening of peace. We stress that we highly value the position of the PRC, which has stated that it will not be first to use nuclear weapons and opposes the militarization of space.

In short, it is hard to give a simple description of the situation. But nonetheless I think that we are entitled to be optimistic and to hope that relations between our countries will improve. After all, this accords with the fundamental interests of both the Soviet and Chinese peoples.

During my trip I met with many Chinese. To my delight I noticed no sense of hostility in those whom I talked to in the streets and on trains, that is, in entirely chance meetings. In other words, I encountered no hostility toward Soviet people, despite the intensive ideological indoctrination to which the Chinese people were subjected during the time of the "cultural revolution." The interest in our country is obvious. I was delighted that many works of Russian and Soviet literature are being translated and published in the PRC. The selection seems to be quite unbiased -- probably all the most important and interesting books that we have published in recent years can today be found in Chinese translation.

Finally, there is one other factor which inspires hope for the improvement of mutual understanding. When genuinely friendly, good-nieghborly relations existed between our countries, this was seen not only at the interstate and intergovernmental level. Tens of thousands of people -- Chinese students, workers, and our specialists working in the PRC during the 1st 5-Year Plan -- were involved in fraternal ties. People who know from their own experience the selflessness of the Soviet people and the Soviet people's attitude to the Chinese revolution and the Chinese people are alive today. Now, of course, they are no longer young, but their opinion, and their experience too, I hope, play and will continue to play a part.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON U.S.-LIBYAN TENSIONS

Naval Maneuvers 'Provocation'

LD240440 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0410 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Washington, 24 Jan (TASS) -- The large-scale naval maneuvers being undertaken by the United States off the shores of Libya are an unconcealed provocation. As a CBS television correspondent at the Pentagon reported, the aim of these maneuvers, in which two aircraft carrier formations will be participating, in fact consists of "provoking Libya and thereby giving the United States an excuse for inflicting a strike" on this Mediterranean state. The correspondent drew particular attention to the fact that the maneuvers have been timed to coincide with the end of the tour of Western Europe by Asssistant Secretary of State John Whitehead, who tried to drag the allies into anti-Libyan sanctions. The trip was "in the main unsuccessful," the Correspondent underlined. And now the United States, as can be seen, is ready to go to extreme measures to exert "pressure" [Vozdeystviye] on sovereign Libya, which is groundlessly being accused by Washington of supporting "international terrorism."

U.S. Creates 'Tensions'

LD240702 Moscow TASS in English 0654 GMT 24 Jan 86

["United States Working Up Tensions Off Libyan Coast" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, January 24 TASS -- The Reagan Administration is working up military tensions off the Libyan coast. According to an ASSOCIATED PRESS report, the Pentagon served a notification to the management of the Tripoli airport saying that U.S. aircraft carrier-based aviation was about to begin flights off the Libyan coast in the region serviced by Libyan air traffic controllers. The notification said that the flights of U.S. warplanes would be held on January 24-31.

Reagan Plots Against Libya

LD240733 Moscow TASS in English 0731 GMT 24 Jan 86

["White House -- A Plot Against Libya" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, January 24 TASS -- The U.S. President has ordered that the drawing up of a plan to destabilise the situation in Libya and overthrow the leader of the Libyan revolution Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi be accelerated. According to a report in the newspaper WASHINGTON POST. These instructions were issued in the course of special meetings in the White House on January 6 and 7 to outline "measures of exerting influences" on the Libyan state.

One of such measures is the imposition of economic, financial and trade sanctions against Libya which were announced by Washington on January 7. Yet the decision of the White House to intensify preparations for a plot to overthrow al-Qadhahafi was not announced then. The newspaper WASHINGTON POST said earlier that it was already in 1985 that the President approved the general idea of launching such an operation. Judging by the information published in the newspaper today, the point at issue is the forming, training and arming of terrorist gangs similar to the Nicaraguan "contras". At the same time an effort is under way to "identify potential successors to Al-Qadhdhafi," the main criterion being that they should be "pro-western".

Yet, the newspaper says, "this problem is worsened by the strong anti-American sentiments" among the Libyans. Intelligence circles complain that it is extremely difficult to select "candidates."

The United States hopes to gear some countries, which they in Washington rate among their allies in the Middle East, to the implementation of the designs of the United States. According to the newspaper WASHINGTON POST, at the same meeting in the White House, where it was decided to speed up the planning of a covert operation. Reagan ordered that a special emissary be sent to one of such countries for a detailed discussion of the question of coordination of possible military measures against Libya.

Opposition to Sanctions

LD231902 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Report by Georgiy Voytsekhovskiy from Athens]

[Text] The government of Switzerland has officially refused to join American economic sanctions against Libya. A corresponding government message was sent to Washington. Other West European countries also refused to support the anti-Libyan steps of the United States though the call of the White House was directed primarily to them. Washington has sent Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead to exert direct pressure on the NATO allies. Our correspondent Georigy Voytsekhovskiy has filed this report from Athens. The Greek foreign minister, Karolos Papoulias, spoke of his concern to the Washington envoy about the aggravation of the situation in the Mediterranean following the concentration of American naval and air forces around Libya. He said Greece was opposed to the crisis there and did not support United States sanctions against Libya. To the charges of the Washington envoy against Libya, Karolos Papoulias replied that the Greek Government had reliable information that Libya had nothing to do with the acts of terrorism in the airports of Vienna and Rome a month ago. The Greek public fears that the country might be unwillingly involved in a possible American aggression against Libya because there are United States military bases on Greek territory.

And next a dispatch from Bonn. John Whitehead left the West German capital empty - handed. He failed to change the approach of West Germany and force it to join the anti-Libyan sanctions. Judging by his news conference, Washington's requirements to Bonn resembled an ultimatum. The United States of America urged West German to cut down oil imports from Libya, ban the landings of planes belonging to the Libyan airlines in West Germany, recall its citizens from Libya, prohibit the sales of high technology and credits to that country and control more carefully the operations of the Libyan People's Bureau in Bonn that functions as an embassy. The list of Washington's brazen requirements aroused indignation even in the ruling circles of Bonn that regards it as an attempt to interfere in their internal affairs. The press is saying that the Washington envoy was told that the United States of America and the Federal Republic of Germany had contrasting views of the problem. Europe prefers a peaceful settlement of the situation that has taken shape in the Middle East.

'Resistance' to Whitehead

LD231812 Moscow TASS in English 1750 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 23 TASS -- TASS commentator Leonid Ponomarev writes: The Washington administration is keeping up pressure on the governments of the Common Market countries to join American economic sanctions against the Libyan Jamahiriyah. It would like to impart a "collective nature" and a semblance of legality to its arbitrary moves against that country.

Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek, who is now chairman of the Ministerial Council of the European Communities, said in a statement to journalists in The Hague Wednesday that it was possible that the council would consider proposals for an economic boycott of Libya. But he added that it would be hard to reach common agreement on the economic isolation of one country.

The U.S. Administration sent John Whitehead, a deputy secretary of state, to Western Europe to wring consent to the economic sanctions against Libya but he encountered open resistance there. Commenting on Whitehead's mission, THE WASHINGTON POST said today that the Reagan administration has failed in its attempts to convince West European countries of the need to isolate Libya. The French newspaper LE MATIN, for its part, said that having arrived in Paris, the American envoy was making stress not any longer on the economic or political aspects of the sanctions against Libya but on "the moral duty of the West in the issue."

What kind of moral duty can there be if speaking at a news conference in Paris, Whitehead could not cite any evidence to prove Libya's involvement in the acts of terrorism in Rome and Vienna and thereby justify the U.S. Government's vicious anti-Libyan campaign. If any government happens to be disliked by the ruling elite in the United States, the latter accuses it of all mortal sins without adducing any proof.

This is just the case with Libya: groundless charges and no facts to back them up. This is one "moral" aspect of the U.S. Administration's "new globalism" concept based on international terrorism. Flagrant interference in the internal affairs of other states, flouting of the sovereignty of independent countries and violations of international law -- such is the U.S. code of conduct on the international scene.

Whitehead's West European tour shows that even closest U.S. allies in NATO get first-hand experience of Washington's hegemonist actions and its policy of unceremonious pressure and direct interference in their internal affairs.

U.S.-Israeli Moves Chronicled

PM231048 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Jan 86 p 15

[Igor Belyayev article: "The Case Against Libya, or When the Moor Does Not Do What They Want..."]

[Text] The American-Israeli war games around Libya are continuing. It is striking that they are being conducted according to a previously elaborated scenario. One action gives way to another. Passions around the terrorist acts at Rome and Vienna airports had scarcely settled before a U.S. naval armada (more than 40 ships!) was heading for Libyan shores and an Israeli Air Force squadron was flying onto the U.S. aircraft carrier Coral Sea belonging to this armada.

And the goals of the American-Israeli games are clear. Everything which happened in Rome and Vienna was designed to create a "cordon of intolerance," around Libya and with respect to Syrian and all Arabs, and to bring the world to the point where military action against Libya -- and Syria, too -- is virtually inevitable. Remember that Israel's 6 June 1982 attack on Lebanon was preceded by open talk of war agianst the Lebanese and Palestinians...

Washington talks of "punishing" Libya for the terrorist acts at Rome and Vienna airports by Palestinians allegedly based in Libya, threatens to order the landing of U.S. arines in Tripoli, and talks of the physical extermination of Al-Qadhdhafi.

And all this despite the fact that there is no real proof of Libya's participation in these acts and that Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has resolutely condemned the murders in Rome and Vienna and rejected as absurd the allegations that Libya has virtually become the "center of international terrorism." His statements are being deliberately ignored, which has also become a means of stepping up tension in the huge region.

The Soviet Union has always opposed terrorism, in whatever form people have attempted to impose it on countries and peoples. The murders of completely innocent people are particularly abhorrent to us. That is why there has never been support in Moscow for those who want to secure their aims by terrorism or by manipulating terrorism in any particular region of the world, especially the Near East.

Let Us Recall Something...

No sooner did Washington begin to feel that Al-Qadhdhafi was acting from national positions, against imperialism and Zionism, than it tried to prove over a period many years, often by rather dubious means, that the Libyan leader is virtually engaged in the assassinations of politicians and diplomats. In 1977 President Jimmy Carter, at the writing desk in the Oval Office, wrote a rather strange handwritten note. On White House notepaper! Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, to whom the note was addressed, must have had no doubt as to the authorship of the alarming message. It was sealed and dispatched to Tripoli by special courier. With the strictest instructions that he hand the note over to the Colonel personally. Intermediaries were ruled out.

Why such haste and such strict instructions? President Carter had found out that the life of the U.S. ambassador in Cairo, Hermann Frederick Eilts, was in danger. An attempt was allegedly being prepared on the life of the highly resourceful and accomplished Arab-speaking diplomat, called into service in the State Department for a second time by H. Kissinger. So who was risking such a dangerous undertaking? Libya!

At that time U.S. Ambassador Eilts, previously accredited in Saudi Arabia where in February 1975 King Faysal was murdered (people had not forgiven him for the embargo declared in October 1973 on oil deliveries to all who supported Israel), was being very successful in his work with Al-Sadat. The Libyan leader allegedly deemed the ambassador to be a "dangerous man" for the Arabs and decided to deal with him. According to the version presented to President Carter by the CIA, Al-Qadhdhafi -- to prepare the attempt -- had already introduced into Egypt several "agricultural experts." And they were to murder Eilts.

An American "double agent" working in Libya at the time "found out" the details of "Operation Eilts" and immediately reported them to Washington. A real panic broke out here. The White House believed that the lives of the more than 2,000 U.S. citizens working in Libya at oil and other enterprises were also supposedly in danger. For if the "double agent" was exposed, people in the White House believed, all possible troubles would inevitably befall their poor compatriots. So Carter wrote the note to the Libyan leader demanding that he abandon the attempt. In the note he warned him of all the terrible consequences if Ambassador Eilts was murdered by some Libyan "agricultural experts"...

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi read Carter's note, shrugged his shoulders, and told the U.S. President that "Operation Eilts" was pure fabrication! Not a single Libyan "agricultural expert" had been sent to Egypt. Not one!

Ambassador Eilts, of course, is still alive and well. He witnessed the Camp David deal between Al-Sadat and Begin. Through Carter's mediation. And the American "double agent" who reported the "operation" safely left Tripoli. Carter ordered his correspondence with Al-Qadhdhafi to be kept secret...

Yet Another Historical Digression

January 21, 1981 was cold and windy. The people entering the hall in which the U.S. National Security Council was sitting huddled chillily and exchanged glances. The speed with which the meeting had been called bewildered them. Ronald Reagan was in the presidential chair. They were about to hear something extraordinary -- Richard Allen, adviser to the president newly installed in the White House, and Pentagon chief Caspar Weinberger were reporting on the situation in Iran, Libya, and El Salvador. There were some other urgent questions, but preference was given to the situation in those three countries. Secretary of State Alexander Haig was also preparing to give his first signal to Libya...

What was the cause of such urgent attention on the part of Ronald Reagan to Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi?

Even under Nixon Libya had shown that it did not intend to act according to instructions from Washington. Al-Qadhdhafi could not understand why any links with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries were contraindicated for the Libyan revolution. In late February 1972 Major Jallud, one of Libya's leaders, visited Moscow where he signed Libyan-Soviet agreements on economic and technical cooperation. This was the first step -- albeit of very modest significance -- toward mutual understanding between our countries.

The year 1973 was instructive for Libya and disturbing for the United States, which was following the situation in Tripoli so attentively.

Al-Qadhdhafi resolutely rejected a deal between the United States and Israel, in whatever form. Its principle in approaching the Near East problems was struggle and political settlement, primarily a just settlement aimed at resolving the Palestinian problem as the most complex and most acute problem. He always remembered Al-Nasir and his principled anti-imperialist stance. The great Egyptian was and remains for him an example of a genuinely national approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

That is why, when Al-Qadhdhafi learned that Al-Sadat had entered into a deal with the aggressor and its patron, the Libyan leader condemned the policy of capitulation. Libya did not support the accords between Egypt and Israel, which practically paved the way for Camp David.

In spring 1974 Major Jallud was again in Moscow. This time he negotiated with the Soviet leaders on expanding cooperation between Libya and the Soviet Union. The irritation of both the United States and Egypt was boundless. In the next 6 years Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's firmness in his defense of the just cause of the Arabs became increasingly obvious. He became increasingly convinced that Al-Sadat was inclining toward capitulation to Israel and was even ready to fight Libya (1976). When the Egyptian president traveled to occupied Jerusalem (November 1977) and then signed the Camp David agreements and the Israeli-Egyptian "peace" treaty at the expense of the Palestinians and all Arabs, Libya started to fight its anti-Arab policy and joined the steadfastness and confrontation front, to which Syria, Algeria, and PDRY, and the PLO also belonged.

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's stance upset the United States although Washington knew perfectly well that Libya had active economic links and trade with Britain, France, Italy, and the FRG. However, U.S. politicians were scared above all at the prospect of the further expansion of Libyan-Soviet cooperation.

The Pentagon realized that its intentions to use Libyan territory and also sea ports and airports in early U.S. strategic plans were in jeopardy. The 6th Fleet did not feel comfortable in the central Mediterranean. Independent Libya was wrecking the plan for war against the Soviet Union known under the codename "Dropshot." It was declassified in 1977. When the plan was being drawn up Omar Bradley was chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. During World War II this general commanded the 2d U.S. Corps which fought in Tunisia and later in Sicily. Bradley insisted that "Dropshot" made provision for the use by NATO armies of the entire southern shore of the Mediterranean. And suddenly Libya refused to fall in with "Dropshot!" Yet in the event of a new war a division of U.S. Marines, together with support and air force units was to have landed on its territory. Suddenly everything began to fall apart...

A Blow to "Dropshot"

Back in 1974 the well-known U.S. military observer Drew Middleton, writing in THE NEW YORK TIMES, noted that U.S. "hawks," and in particular Professor R. Tucker, were advocating that "in the event of war" U.S. forces should be landed in the Persian Gulf zone. Opponents pointed out that in order to reach the destination the vast distance between the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean would have to be covered. Libya was quite a different proposition. But what about Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's stance?

In order to overtly exert pressure on Al-Qadhdhafi, Washington decided to mount an unprecedented show of strength in the Gulf of Sidra, south of Benghazi. A U.S.-Libyan military confrontation could have been provoked there.

In February 1981 President Reagan, examining the plan for the upcoming 6th Fleet maneuvers, decided to hold them in the Gulf, north of the limit of Libyan territorial waters as depicted on Libya's map submitted to the United Nations. An official remarked: "The United States has decided to punch Libya on the nose."

On 18 August 1981, during the maneuvers, U.S. interceptors downed two Libyan fighter planes on routine patrol flights above the Gulf...

Proof? None!

Another by no means unimportant detail attracts attention. No sooner were the acts of terrorism committed at Rome and Vienna airports 27 December reported -- and also earlier, when the news broke about the finale of the tragedy of the Egyptian Boeing airliner in Malta 23 November -- than Washington and Cairo immediately began to talk about "Abu Nidal's people." Claiming that it was they who murdered the completely innocent air passengers. What is the reason for this totally unjustified haste? After all, there was no question of a serious investigation into what had happened. There never was one! Nonetheless, addressing a press conference at the U.S. State Department 2 January 1986, C. Redman repeated that the evidence collected in the wake of the events at Rome and Viennaairports allegedly "pointed to Abu Nidal's group as the organizer of these attacks" and that "there was a close connection between Al-Qadhdhafi's regime and this group."

The State Department spokesman did not cite a single fact to corroborate this statement. I am by no means claiming that Abu Nidal is not responsible for what happened.

Yet to prove his or anyone else's guilt cogent proof and incontrovertible evidence is necessary. You get the impression that the conjectures about Abu Nidal were also prepared in advance.

President H. Mubarak, speaking in connection with the hijacking of the Egyptian Boeing airliner to Malta, claimed that the "mastermind of the hijacking" lives in Tripoli. At the Grand Hotel, room No 401. Actually, as journalists found out, Ngom, a Senegalese lawyer who was in Tripoli to attend an international symposium occupied that room. Martin Bailey, correspondent of the London weekly THE OBSERVER, looked into the next room, No 403, and found Muhsin Abu Mayzar, the well-known Palestinian there. He is a well-known public figure and heads the Palestinian Peace and Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee. I have known him for more than 20 years. Abu Mayzar is in no way connected with the hijackings. His name is widely known throughout the world. He has no links with Abu Nidal... He has been living in Damascus since differences arose between him and the PLO leader. But why it was necessary to confuse Abu Mayzar with Abu Nidal is beyond me!

Incidentally, it does not look all that innocent. Too little is known about Abu Nidal. For instance, no one has seen him in recent months, and possibly for years. Neither in Tripoli, nor in any other Arab capital. A current biography of Abu Nidal, published in THE NEW YORK TIMES 1 January 1986, was sent in by T. Friedman from West Jerusalem... On the eve of the New Year, attacking Libya, the Israeli Premier Peres described it as an "ill-intentioned country' which harbors terrorists and called for international sanctions against Libya. Nonetheless, he did not actually accuse Libya of having organized the acts of terrorism at Rome and Vienna airports and emphasized that if the Palestinian guerrilla leader Abu Nidal was responsible for them "we know that he is in Libya." And he said at the same time that Israel would hit the terrorists "at a time and place and with such means as it deems appropriate." In cooperation with the United States, of course.

However, let us return to Abu Nidal. I have come across reports claiming that he is dead, although according to the assertions of the Western media almost all acts of terrorism of recent months are being ascribed to his people, who form a very small group. Who was behind the terrorists? The selfsame NEW YORK TIMES noted in a dispatch by (J. Taglieybyu), its Rome correspondent, that the findings of the investigation in Rome and Vienna show that the attacks were carried out by young Palestinians. All along the way from the Near East to West Europe they were masterminded by an organization which includes experienced people -- both Arabs and Europeans -- and which operates secretly A similar scenario can be detected in a whole series of terrorist acts committed recently by Arabs in Italy, including the hijacking of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro in October of last year. This is the difference, (J. Taglieybyu) wrote, between "the current attacks and the former Near East terrorists' actions in Europe" which as officials point out, were both planned and implemented by the same people. This means that much will have to be clarified. Could it be that the tracks lead to the CIA and Mossad?

President Reagan's entourage nonetheless put the blame on none other than Abu Nidal's group, R. Lloyd, an NBC correspondent who accompanied the U.S. president on his latest trip to California, wrote. The American emphasized that because this group was very small and it was impossible to find it, all attention even then focused on Libya and on actions against that country. Furthermore, an option comprising direct military action, or U.S. steps aimed at destabilizing and toppling the al-Qadhdhafi regime, with the involvement of West European NATO allies in these actions was studied immediately.

Two more details. Bob Woodword and Lou Cannon wrote about U.S. military plans with respect to Libya in THE WASHINGTON POST on 21 December 1985, that is almost a week prior to the attacks at Rome and Vienna airports.

Citing information obtained in government circles, the U.S. journalists wrote that preliminary military plans began to be drawn up in the summer of that year (i.e. 1985) with the aim of thwarting Libya's actions should it attack a neighboring state in North Africa or should it be proved responsible for any major terrorist incident.

The U.S. authorities, Bob Woodward and Lou Cannon went on, drew up military plans described as "defensive" by one of the officials... The CIA analyzed the military options and compiled a detailed report on possible targets in Libya. The source which passed on this information said that a ranking U.S. emissary had been dispatched to the Near East for talks with friendly countries (that is, friendly towards the United States, of course!) about the coordination of possible options.

The chances of success of a possible direct U.S. military action against Libya were assessed critically in a Pentagon analysis of the situation. In actual fact, the authors of this analysis came out against this option. The Pentagon then specified that at worst the USAF could ultimately request that 6 divisions or 90,000 men be brought into play... It appears that it was then, in November 1985, that the option of an Egyptian-Libyan war emerged!

The fact that any, even the most obvious claim needs to be proven is not denied in Washington, However, in the case of the claim that there are terrorist training camps in Libya they made a strange exception. At one of the White House press conferences in January this year Deputy Press Secretary L. Speakes declared that the administration had no plans to publish evidence that such camps existed. This would "reveal intelligence-gathering methods," as he put it. It seems to me that if the administration had any such information it would have published it long ago. Incidentally, since when is it necessary to reveal sources when publishing this kind of information?

Allow me to dwell on another claim by the U.S. side, namely that Libya does not abide by the commitments it has adopted. As regards combatting terrorism, for instance. In 1978 Al-Qadhdhafi signed the convention on combatting hijackings of civil aircraft. Since that time, as is known, not a single passenger aircraft of any airline has been hijacked on Libyan territory. Libyan citizens have not been involved in any hijackings.

In November 1985 THE WASHINGTON POST confirmed that Reagan had given permission to the CIA to secretly "subvert" the Al-Qadhdhafi regime. Egypt's war against Libya never took place. The Egyptians and all Arabs united in rebuffing the very idea of an inter-Arab clash which could only benefit the United States and Israel.

After the failures in Cairo the machinery of the U.S.-Israeli "strategic alliance" was set in motion. Egypt's AL-AHRAM wrote 2 January 1986 that the ballyhoo raised in the Western and primarily the U.S. press about the deployment of air defense missile installations in Libyan and Syrian territory indicated that Washington and Tel Aviv were preparing anti-Arab actions. According to AL-AHRAM, the U.S. Israeli strategy was aimed at preserving the possibility for the United States and Israel to invade Arab states' air space with impunity. The strategic allies do not want anyone else to have a say in the Near East.

Allow me to clarify one more point. The strengthening cooperation between Arab countries -- including those with conservative regimes -- and the Soviet Union is causing particular alarm in the United States and Israel. Signs of a turn toward Moscow which have become visible particularly clearly of late, have prompted the United States to encourage some kind of a joint West European-Arab initiative which might be revealed at any moment (anything but the Soviet Union and its proposal to convene an international conference on the Near East with the participation of all interested parties including PLO!).

As for Israel, it is hoping that by exacerbating the situation, it will be able again to pose as the victim of Palestinian and Arab terrorism in general. In this case it would, as has happened before, mete out "retribution" with impunity. These are the roots of the quite obvious activity of the CIA and Mossad in the Near East, the Mediterranean, and West Europe. Only now, as distinct from the early seventies, the U.S. and Israeli special services are operating against Libya, seeking to undermine its revolutionary regime which opposes U.S. globalism and Israeli aggression. The current U.S. and Israeli subversive actions have a name. It is state terrorism pure and simple against statesmen, politicians, and countries that are regarded as a nuisance, conducted under the mantle of arguments about combatting "international terrorism."

Rephrasing the famous quotation [from Schiller: "The Moor has done his duty, he can go"] Washington and Tel Aviv believe that because Al-Qadhdhafi is not the Moor they thought he was and because he is not doing "what they want" he must be killed... And this is what the United States and Israel are trying to do...

Instead of a postscript. The article was already set for printing when I heard that Israel allegedly would not take part in a U.S. military operation against Libya. But I have in front of me an excerpt from an ABC television network news bulletin which was broadcast 5 January. The announcer, S. Donaldson, reading out this "piece of news" noted that the Israeli Premier Peres did not rule out the possibility of retaliatory armed actions against the terrorists responsible for the killings at Rome and Vienna airports and possibly hiding in Libya. Consequently, the assurances that Israel allegedly would not take part in a military operation against Libya are far removed from reality. The joint American-Israeli games against Libya are continuing and they do not rule out war. It is just that the administration in Washington wants to be sure that a war against Libya leads without fail to Al-Qadhdhafi's downfall...

U.S. CRUISE MISSILE TEST IN CANADA FAILS

LD240851 Moscow TASS in English 0830 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Ottawa, January 24 TASS -- The testing of an American cruise missile in Canada on January 22 ended in a failure. The missile plummeted to the earth tens of kilometres short of the aim in the proving range in the area of the Cold Lake base (Alberta Province). In view of this failure the Pentagon was forced to cancel the second cruise missile test scheduled for today. Jean Chretien, Canada's former external relations minister and parliament member from the Liberal Party, urged the conservative government to examine the issue of putting an end to the testing of American cruise missiles in Canada.

NO 'SIGNALS' FROM SOVIET EMBASSY DETECTED

LD231356 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Another provocation against the Soviet Embassy in the United States has ended in complete failure for its organizers. Sophisticated tapping devices installed in the vicinity of the embassy failed to record any signs of electronic surveillance. The Federal Communications Commission, which had been instructed to expose the Soviet Embassy, was compelled to admit that the reports about suspicious signals coming from the building were not confirmed. The slanderous charges against the Soviet Union clearly inspired by certain circles, are part of the large-scale anti-Soviet campaign currently underway in the United States.

WEINBERGER SPEECH REJECTS LIBERATION MOVEMENT

LD240925 Moscow TASS in English 0846 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow January 24 TASS -- KRASNAYA ZVEZDA comments in an article entitled "The Pentagon Chief Dons a Philosopher's Garb" the speech delivered by U.S. Defence Secretary Weinberger at a conference in Washington's National Defence University. According to the newspaper, he "set out to elucidate the 'philosophy' behind the U.S. use of force in regional conflicts and also to demonstrate the 'fallacy' of scientific socialism and Marxism-Leninism as a whole."

Weinberger, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA says, rejected out of hand the very possibility of a national liberation movement in the present age and unabashedly characterized the struggle waged by the peoples for their national and social liberation and against hated dictatorial regimes and imperialist intervention from outside as a consequence of the intrigues of Moscow and of those who act at its bidding.

All these discourses were needed by the Pentagon chief "theoretically" to justify the U.S. "right" to intervene in regional conflicts in support of "anti-Communist freedom-fighters," among them Afghan counter-revolutionary bandits, Nicaraguan contras, the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] bandits in Angola and their like.

"What strikes one especially is the hypocritical and demagogical character of the expostulations of the Pentagon chief, especially when he discusses the U.S. Armed Forces. According to him, their goal is to 'preserve freedom.' As for the special operations forces, their mission, he claimed, is to intervene in 'low-intensity conflicts' and they are intended not to kill and work havoc but for 'the construction and restoration of infrastructure, the assisting of others in the improvement of their own lives, whether by restoring land, building roads, digging wells, or helping to provide medical and educational services'. "All this," the newspaper remarks, "is said about the 'Green Berets' and others, whose hands are stained with the blood of victims of U.S. aggression in Indochina, Grenada and other regions!"

"This is the 'philosophy' of Mr. Weinberger and these are the methods he uses in his attempts to rationalize U.S. hegomonistic policy, to slander the peoples fighting for their rights and to smear internationalist support given to them by the Soviet Union."

ABC TO RESUME ANTI-SOVIET 'AMERIKA' SERIES

LD231107 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0800 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] New York, 23 Jan (TASS) -- TASS correspondent M. Knyazkov reports: The management of the ABC television company today announced its decision to resume work on the "Amerika" film series.

This piece of television hack work is a routine murky variation on the theme of the "Soviet military threat" on which the bosses of ABC did not begrudge spending $40 million. It distorts history and ignores the peace-loving policy of the USSR. Its writers have set for themselves the aim of showing what life would be like in the United States 10 years "after...[ellipses as received] its occupation by the USSR". The film will include scenes of reprisals against unarmed Americans and the robbery of national wealth and similar "acts of ruthless barbarians".

Under pressure from the democratic public, the television company bosses were forced to stop work on "Amerika". The concoction of a new portion of anti-Soviet slander was assessed by progressive forces in the United States and outside that country as a betrayal of the spirit of Geneva, but the retreat by the ABC management aroused unconcealed annoyance in the White House. Education Secretary W. Bennett stated that the company "had taught a bad lesson" to American children. Inveterate "hawks" inundated the television company with reproaches for allegedly "dancing to Moscow's tune". ABC reviewed its position once again.

Local observers note that the fuss around the film series has shown with great clarity who is orchestrating the large-scale anti-Soviet campaign which has been unleashed by the U.S. film industry in recent years. Within this framework there was the malicious film "Red Dawn" in 1984 which depicted a "Soviet-Cuban invasion of the United States"; last year Americans were presented with the films "Rambo First Blood II" and "Rocky IV" which contain unambiguous appeals for reprisals against communists. Now the baton of anti-Sovietism, judging by everything, is being passed to ABC.

PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN PROMOTES CHEMICAL WEAPONS

LD231006 Moscow TASS in English 2154 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] Washington, January 22 TASS -- The Pentagon has spent almost a million dollars in the past three years on a propaganda campaign meant to get the U.S. Congress to abandon its opposition to the programmes to produce new types of chemical weapons. Writing about this today, THE WASHINGTON POST cites excerpts from the report of the consulting firm "Burdeshaw Associates, Ltd." with a roster of more than 170 retired generals and officers. The Pentagon resorted to the services of this firm to justify the programme for the modernization of its huge chemical weapons arsenal.

To the Pentagon order, a group of experts from "Burdeshaw Associates" ran a nine-month "study" with a view to pressurizing congressmen and mustering their consent to the release of funds in the current fiscal year for the production of nerve gas, a chemical weapon of new generation and of enhanced danger. The U.S. military-industrial complex, which has already built on taxpayers's funds a plant to produce chemical arms in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, has been awaiting this consent with impatience. To achieve their aims, staff members of "Burdeshaw Associates" were not ashamed of resorting to such methods of "brainwashing" lawmakers as juggling with facts and slander.

Senior Pentagon officials are now refuting the fact that they attempted to put pressure on congressmen. They in the U.S. military establishment are eager to conceal the fact that in pursuit of its selfish ends the military-industrial complex breaks laws prohibiting the use of funds to influence congressional action on any legislation pending before Congress. The article in THE WASHINGTON POST is graphic evidence that laws for the Pentagon are not mandatory when the point at issue is modernization of military programmes promising new profits for the military-industrial complex.

U.S. 'NEOGLOBALISM' DOCTRINE CRITICIZED

LD231609 Moscow TASS in English 1453 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Washington, January 23 TASS -- TASS Correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports: A statement has been issued here of a spokesman for the White House who wished to be unnamed, that the Administration decided to get from the Congress soon the appropriation of 100 million dollars for military aid to the "contras", with whose hands the USA is waging war against Nicaragua.

It is reported in the Congress circles that the Administration is out to increase considerably the appropriations already running into many millions to purchase weapons also for other "freedom fighters" [that] U.S. official Washington names the counter-revolutionary bandits in Afghanistan, the cutthroats from the Angola UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] splitting grouping and the gangs of Pol Pot men who make inroads into Kampuchea's territory.

These [word indistinct] are viewed by observers as evidence that the Administration intends to substantiate practically the new doctrine of "neoglobalism", providing for direct U.S. interference in the internal affairs of independent developing states. Among the ideologists of the new doctrine are a host of the present and former members of Administration notorious for their most reactionary views, among them, Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, Director of the Office of Communications of the White House Patrick Buchanan, former U.S. Permanent Representative to the U.N. Jeanne Kirkpatrick, professional politologists from various "brain centres", above all from the "Heritage Foundation".

A publication just issued by the "Heritage Foundation" says that the essence of the doctrine of "neoglobalism" is allegedly not to force on other countries the will of the USA, but only to "ensure conditions for freedom the world over". Yet, the phrase belonging to Jeanne Kirkpatrick, which is contained in the pamphlet, betrays its real aims: "To change the balance of forces in the world". To this end it is planned to gear anti-government gangs in the developing countries more actively in the export of counter-revolution, supply them increasingly generously with dollars and weapons, let them kill their compatriots and die themselves in the name of "democracy" American style, to be more precise, in the name of the "global interests" of United States imperialism. As the apologists of the doctrine of "neoglobalism" openly admit "democracy" has nothing to do with it.

There is, however, nothing new about this course. The same aims were pursued by the disgraceful "Vietnamisation doctrine", which originated in the course of U.S. aggression against Vietnam and provided war for "freedom" with the hands of the Vietnamese and to the last Vietnamese. The outcome of this strategy is well known.

The doctrine of "neoglobalism", which is designed to legalize U.S. interference in the regions where it is out to strengthen its rule by means of its placeman, is a source of serious worry in Congress. As the U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT points out, the legislators are worried that this doctrine may lead to a new large-scale military intervention of the United States abroad.

U.S. PRESSURING GREECE ON BASES AGREEMENT

LD231344 Moscow in Greek to Greece 1730 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Lately the United States and NATO are attempting with increasing frequency to exert pressure on Greece in order to make it give up the implementation of an independent foreign policy. Such an attempt was made recently by NATO Secretary General Carrington. Speaking in the West German town of Karlsruhe to Bundeswehr officers, Carrington demanded that Greece, as a NATO ally, follow the policy laid down by the bloc and by the United States. Particular irritation was felt by Carrington as a result of Greek participation in the initiative of the nonaligned countries aimed at ending the nuclear arms race.

Among political observers in Athens, attention was paid to the fact that the speech by the NATO Secretary General followed a whole series of visits to Greece by White House official envoys, Congressmen and Senators, one of whose aims was to force the Greek side to abandon the agreement regarding the removal of the U.S. war bases from Greek territory after 1988. The representatives of the U.S. Administration during their meetings with Greek representatives in the framework of the meetings and sessions of NATO bodies in December 1985 had the same aim.

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR described this U.S. line toward Greece as pressure without ultimatums. This pressure takes place in the most diverse areas.

Economic pressure: let us recall the so-called tourist sanctions imposed by the United States after the hijack of the U.S. plane flying the Athens-Rome route, although Greece had nothing to do with this action. The White House at that time prohibited U.S. airline companies from using Athens international airport, and U.S. citizens were advised not to take vacations in Greece. According to figures given by the French newspaper LE MONDE, Greece's losses as a result of these sanctions reached $200-300 million. It is doubtful if there is any need to prove here how much benefit these funds would have brought a country hit by a severe economic crisis.

Military pressure: Military exercises are taking place all the time during which U.S. fighter planes systematically violate Greek air space in a demonstration of their military might. The United States and NATO are trying to drag Greece into the expansion of the NATO military preparations in the Eastern Mediterranean region.

Political pressure: We have already mentioned the U.S.-NATO visitors who pay special attention to Athens. First U.S. General Rogers commander in chief of the NATO Joint Armed Forces in Europe, makes his appearance in the Greek capital, then U.S. under Secretary of State Armacost pays a visit. A few days ago his colleague, U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead paid a visit to Athens. He also tried to force Athens to make concessions in the matter of the U.S. bases in Greece. The U.S. Secretary of State himself, George Shultz, speaking in Brussels at a recent NATO session, made clear that the continuing presence of U.S. bases in Greece constitutes for Washington a basic precondition for a full normalization of Greek-American relations.

The question arises: Why is the United States trying to persistently to maintain its bases in Greece? A very clear statement was made in this connection by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State (Harris), who stated in Washington that Greece has a great strategic importance for the West, the United States and NATO because it is at the crossroads of Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Greece could help in a blockade of the sea and air routes in the Mediterranean region and in this connection (Harris) referred to the U.S. war installations in Greece which, as it emerges from his statements, serve the interests of the United States and NATO. What the United States means by these interests was made clear by Pentagon spokesman Lieutenant (Glenn Flood) in an interview for the newspaper (Proini) published in New York. In the event of a crisis, (Flood) stated, I could not rule out the possibility of our bases in Greece being used by the Rapid Deployment Force.

The tense situation brought about by the United States in the Mediterranean very close to Libyan borders is causing concern in Greece.

Recently Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias stated that Greece is opposed to any kind of war operation and categorically rejects the imposition of economic or any other sanctions against Libya. The protest movement against the presence of U.S. war bases on Greek territory is gathering momentum in Greece. The United States and NATO, however, continue to exert pressure on Greece in this matter, which is also confirmed by the visit by U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead to Athens and by the speech by NATO Secretary General Carrington in the FRG.

COSMONAUTS ADDRESS U.S. PRESS CONFERENCE

LD231145 Moscow TASS in English 0953 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] San Francisco, January 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yuriy Ustimenko reports:

The experience accumulated by participants in space missions and new technology developed in space flights should be used extensively in the interests of the whole of mankind, American astronaut Rusty Schweickart said at a press conference after a meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Association of Space Explorers here. We have one earth and one future, about which each of us and all of us together should care.

Our goal, Soviet cosmonaut Aleksey Leonov said, is to pool our efforts in the peaceful exploration of outer space. Space should serve only peaceful purposes and its militarization is totally at odds with the interests of mankind. Like all people on earth, we want nothing to pose a threat to our planet, our task is to preserve earth and to safeguard and strengthen world peace.

It is my cherished dream, GDR Cosmonaut Sigmund Jaehn said, that Earth should remain for ever as beautiful as it was when I saw it from outer space. I want all of us and our children and grandchildren to live in friendship and happiness, to live in peace. I think that this dream should take precedence over all the other wishes.

Outer space can do us a good service, Saudi Arabian astronaut Sultan Salman al-Saud said. A good deal of what is useful for people on earth is yet to be done in space.

The members of the Executive Committee discussed preparations for the association's second congress due to take place in Budapest next October. The founding congress was held in a suburb of Paris last October.

In the course of meetings in San Francisco, Schweickart told TASS correspondent, we also discussed the expansion and strengthening of cooperation among spacemen from different countries in the interests of the peaceful use of outer space. The Executive Committee is planning public appearances, exhibitions, joint publications and other activities to promote this goal.

PRC PREMIER ZHAO ZIYANG'S SPEECH NOTED

PM231431 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Speech by the Premier of the PRC State Council"]

[Text] Beijing, 22 Jan -- The Chinese press reports that Zhao Ziyang, premier of the PRC State Council, addressed the participants in the National Conference on Planning and Economic Work which was held in Beijing. His speech touched on questions connected with the reform of the economic system, noted the difficulties which the country's economy have encountered since the start of this reform, and spoke of ways of overcoming them.

The premier of the PRC State Council said, in particular, that last year -- the first year of the implementation of all-around reforms -- major work was done with a view to "overcoming the overheating of the economy" which appeared in the first quarter of 1984 and "eliminating unstable factors." Now, in his words, the economic situation has become less strained on the whole. Moreover the control of prices for agricultural products has helped to regulate the structure of agriculture and develop the market economy in the countryside. He also stated that last year's results "made it possible to clarify ways of further advancing the reforms being carried out."

In order to make successful progress, Zhao Ziyang went on to note, existing problems must not be ignored. At present there are still destabilizing factors in the economy, and moreover supply does not satisfy demand. He stressed the significance of the principle of distribution according to labor and the need to overcome wage leveling and step up ideological education work with a view to increasing labor activeness.

The Chinese head of government's speech makes particular mention of the further boosting of the work of large and medium enterprises producing output for export. To this end taxes will be reduced to some extent and deductions assigned to the funds of these enterprises will be increased. However, Zhao Ziyang warned, these resources must be used for technical modernization and for improving product quality, and cannot be channeled into increasing the wages of workers and employees of the social consumption funds.

On the basis of last year's reforms, the premier of the PRC State Council pointed out, this year the main attention will be devoted to strengthening and improving the positions already gained and preparing for further transformations. It is necessary to improve the system of control of capital investments and the money supply and resolve problems associated with the form of prices and wages. In this connection he stated that in 1986 no major measures will be undertaken in the sphere of price reform. Efforts will be aimed at seeking ways of stabilizing prices, including food prices.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS NPC STANDING COMMITTEE SESSION

PM221608 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "At the National People's Congress Standing Committee"]

[Text] Beijing, 21 Jan -- A session of the National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee here has adopted a resolution to convene the next NPC session on 25 March this year. The session will examine and ratify the Seventh 5-year Plan for the PRC's Economic and Social Development (1986-1990) and also the country's economic and social development plan and state budget for 1986.

The session examined drafts of the "General Provisions of the PRC Civil Code" and of the "PRC Law on Enterprises Based on the Capital of Foreign Firms" and the "Law on Compulsory Education" and adopted a "PRC Law on the Fish Industry."

At the recommendation of the PRC State Council the NPC Standing Committee decided to rename the PRC Ministry of Radio and Television the Ministry of Radio, Cinematography, and Television.

The session examined reports by Zheng Tianxiang, president of the PRC Supreme People's Court, and Yang Yichen, procurator general of the PRC Supreme People's Procuratorate, on measures taken against criminal activity in the ecomonic sphere.

JOURNAL NOTES HOPES FOR BETTER PRC-USSR TIES

OW240423 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The Communist Party and the Government of the Soviet Union attach great importance to the nomalization of the Soviet-Chinese relations. Such normalization would serve the fundamental interests of the peoples of both countries as well as the interests of peace and socialism. Our party teaches the Soviet people to foster friendship with a mutual respect for China, to admire the Chinese people's history and culture, and to emulate the Chinese people's spirit of waging a heroic struggle to liberate China from foreign oppression and bring about a national revolution. PROBLEMY DALNEGO VOSTOKA, published by the Far East Institute of the Soviet Academy of Science, has done a great deal of work in this respect.

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Soviet People's Victory over fascist Germany and militarist Japan last year, the magazine published a lot of material introducing the significance of that victory to the development of China's national liberation movement and to the success of the Chinese people's revolution in October 1949.

An article entitled "Advance Along Lenin's Peaceful Lines" carries in Issue No. 4 of last year noted: The USSR hopes to seriously improve its relations with China. This is entirely possible, given the expression of such intentions on both sides. The USSR's starting point is the conviction that neighborly relations and extensive cooperation between the two countries can be resotred on the basis of mutually acceptable conditions and equality. This would not only serve the fundamental rights of the Soviet and Chinese peoples but would also help to strengthen peace in Asia, world peace, and socialism.

SOVIET-KOREAN JOINT COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED

PM231704 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

["Joint Soviet-Korean Communique" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] At the invitation of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee and and the DPRK Government, E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, was on an official friendly visit to the DPRK 19-23 January 1986.

During the USSR foreign minister's stay in Korea, he and the officials accompanying him were accorded a hearty and cordial welcome and hospitality. E.A. Shevardnadze visited (Mangyongdae), toured the sights of Pyongyang, and laid wreaths at the revolutionaries' cemetery on (Taesongsan) Hill, the Liberation monument erected in honor of Soviet servicemen who lost their lives, and the monument to Chinese people's volunteers.

E.A. Shevardnadze met with Kim Il-Song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and DPRK president, and had a warm friendly conversation with him. The USSR foreign minister handed Kim Il-song a personal message and conveyed greetings from M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Kim Il-song expressed profound gratitude and asked that greetings and good wishes be conveyed to M.S. Gorbachev.

Talks were held between E.A. Shevardnadze and Kim Yong-nam, member of the WPK Central Committee Politburo, deputy premier of the DPRK Administrative Council, and DPRK foreign minister, on a wide range of questions of Soviet-Korean relations and topical international problems. The meetings and talks took place in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship, comradely mutual understanding, and complete unanimity of views.

The foreign ministers signed a USSR-DPRK treaty on the delimitationof the economic zone and continental shelf and an agreement on reciprocal visits by USSR and DPRK citizens, which consolidate still further the legal basis of the relations of good neighborliness and cooperation between the two states.

The sides briefed each other on achievements in various spheres of socialist building in their countries. On behalf of all Soviet people E.A. Shevardnadze congratulated the Korean people on the successes scored under the tested leadership of the WPK Central Committee in implementing the line of three revolutions -- ideological, technical, and cultural -- formulated by the Sixth Party Congress, noted the considerable growth of the DPRK's international prestige, and wished the Korean people even greater accomplishments in the struggle for the total victory of socialism and the peaceful democratic unification of the motherland.

The Korean side welcome the successes of the Soviet people, who are greeting the 27th CPSU Congress in an atmosphere of lofty labor enthusiasm, and wished them new victories in the implementation of the large-scale tasks of accelerating the Soviet Union's socioeconomic development and improving developed socialist society.

The sides noted with satisfaction that CPSU-WPK and USSR-DPRK relations, based on the immutable principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, are developing and strengthening steadily.

Firm resolve was expressed to apply tireless efforts for the further deepening and expansion of mutual relations in line with the accords reached in the course of the summit meetings and talks during the May 1984 visit to the Soviet Union by Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and DPRK president. The consistent development of Soviet-Korean friendship will increasingly promote the acceleration of socioeconomic building in both countries and the strengthening of the forces of world socialism.

There is a mutual conviction that the Soviet-Korean Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance, which has been in operation for almost 25 years now, is of paramount importance for the onward development of relations between the two states and the preservation of peace in the Far East. The sides expressed confidence that this treaty will continue to play a major role in the cause of blocking imperialist forces' aggressive schemes and confirmed their resolve to unswervingly honor the commitments stemming from the treaty.

During the exchange of opinions on topical problems of the present time the sides expressed serious anxiety that imperialist states, and primarily the United States, are pursuing an adventurist course of attaining military superiority and preparing for a new world war, whipping up the arms race, and striving to extend it into outer space. These actions inevitably lead to the destabilization of the entire strategic situation and the exacerbation of tension in the world and create a serious danger of a nuclear catastrophe.

The USSR and the DPRK believe that in the present complex international situation the further strengthening of the forces of world socialism and the international communist and workers movement and the stepping up of their joint actions in the world arena are a most important condition for maintaining peace and security. Joint detemination to continue to unswervingly strengthen the socialist countries' unity and cohesion and solidarity with the struggle of the developing and nonaligned states and with the struggle of democratic antiwar and antinuclear movements against the policy of aggression and war and for peace and the peoples' security was reaffirmed.

The Koreans side actively supported the Soviet Union's position at the Soviet-U.S. summit in Geneva and the broad constructive program of measures it proposed along with the other Warsaw Pact states aimed at ending the arms race on earth, preventing it spreading to space, cardinally strengthening stability, and increasing trust among states. The importance of the range of new specific Soviet initiatives put forward in the recent statement by M. S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, aimed at ensuring a breakthrough for the better in the development of the international situation and overcoming the negative confrontational trends that have been growing in the world in recent years was particularly stressed. This is a specific program, calculated for the period up to the year 2000, for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons given an accord on prohibiting the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment of nuclear space arms, on extending the moratorium on all nuclear explosions, on eliminating chemical weapons in this century, and on getting the entire existing system of talks moving and ensuring the high effectiveness of the entire disarmament mechanism. [sentence as published]

Particular attention was devoted to a discussion of the situation in the Far East and Asia as a whole. The growing danger of the aggressive U.S. course aimed at turning the Asia-Pacific region into yet another arena for military-political confrontation with the socialist countries was noted. The sides resolutely condemned the buildup of U.S. military preparations in this region, the intensification of militarist trends in Japan, the utilization of South Korea as a nuclear springboard, and the attempts to create a new NATO-type military-political alliance comprising the United States, Japan, and South Korea.

The Soviet side expressed total support for the recent DPRK Government decision not to hold major military maneuvers in the North effective 1 February 1986 and to end all military exercises during North-South talks. In the Soviet side's opinion, the U.S. intention to start the "Team Spirit '86" maneuvers along with South Korea in February is an overt challenge to the Korean people and all peace-loving peoples. This action is fraught with the threat of seriously complicating the overall situation on the Korean peninsula and in Asia.

Both sides were united in condemning the policy pursued by imperialist circles of reinforcing the division of Korea and the continuing U.S. occupation of South Korea, which not only runs counter to the Korean people's national aspirations but threatens peace in the Far East. E.A. Shevardnadze reaffirmed the Soviet Union's unswerving solidarity with the course of the WPK and the DPRK Government aimed at ensuring the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea and uniting the country on a peaceful democratic basis without outside interference. The DPRK proposals on the creation of a Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo through dialogue and talks between the interested parties, on replacing the armistice agreement in Korea with a peace agreement, and on drawing up a North-South nonaggression declaration, and the constructive steps to develop extensive peaceful dialogue betwen them were supported.

Noting the importance of the United Nations in maintain and strengthening peace, the sides advocate the immediate implementation of the resolution adopted at the 30th UN General Assembly "On the Creation of Favorable Conditions for Turning the Armistice in Korea into Lasting Peace and Acclerating the Independent Peaceful Unification of Korea." In this connection the untenability of the attempts to strive to create a "two Koreas situation" through the "cross recognition" of North and South Korea and their simultaneous or separate entry into the United Nations was stressed.

The Soviet side supported the DPRK initiative aimed at ensuring the joint organization by North and South of the 24th summer Olympics in 1988 in order to prevent a reinforcement of the division of Korea and to create a favorable atmosphere for implementing peaceful unification and accelerating the reaching of agreement between them.

E.A Shevardnadze once again highlighted the topicality of the DPRK government's proposal on the withdrawal of all types of U.S nuclear weapons and troops from South Korea and on turning the Korean Peninsula into a zone of peace, a nuclear-free zone on the basis of the conviction that the implementation of these proposals would be in the spirit of the accords reached at the Soviet-American meeting in Geneva and would be a substantial contribution to the strengthening of security in the Asian-Pacific region.

The Korean side regards as important and supports the idea put forward by the Soviet Union of finding a common, comprehensive approach to the resolution of the problem of security in Asia.

The sides note the positive nature of the initiatives of the socialist and nonaligned states aimed at ensuring peace and security in the Asian-Pacific region and in particular at turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace and turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace and equal cooperation.

Solidarity was declared with the people and government of Afghanistan in their struggle to defend the gains of the April revolution.

The two sides noted the importance of continuing the process of normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations on an equal, mutually acceptable basis in the interests of strengthening world socialism's positions.

They expressed concern in connection with the tension which persists in many parts of the world, resolutely condemned the escalation of the imperialist policy of military blackmail and interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states, which leads to the outbreak of dangerous regional conflicts, and reaffirmed that their sympathies are wholly on the side of the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America who are waging a struggle for freedom, independence, and territorial integrity and in defense of the sacred right of every people independently to determine its path of political and social development.

The sides pointed to the need for a just, all-embracing settlement in the Near East on the basis of the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories and the implementation of the Palestinian people's legitimate right to self-determination and the creation of their own state, stressing that in order to achieve such a settlement it is necessary to convene an international conference with the participation of all interested parties, including the PLO.

In the course of the examination of the situation in southern Africa, where the racist South African regime is carrying out cruel repressions against the African population in their struggle for national liberation, organizing armed sorties against the frontline states, and barring the Namibian people's path to the attainment of true independence, it was stated that the Pretoria regime must renounce the inhuman policy of apartheid and mass repressions, withdraw its troops from Namibia without delay, and stop aggressive actions neighboring states.

Condemning the intensification of imperialist interference in the internal affairs of Caribbean countries, the USSR and the DPRK stated that they are on the side of the Cuban and Nicaraguan peoples, who are struggling for the defense of national sovereignty and a peaceful settlement in the Central America region.

Mention was made of the growing role of the Nonaligned Movement as a major factor of today against the arms race and for the strengthening of universal peace, the development of equal, mutually advantageous cooperation, and the establishment of a new international economic order. The USSR and the DPRK will continue to show solidarity with the struggle of the peoples of nonaligned states against imperialism, neocolonialism, racism, Zionism, and apartheid and for the strengthening of their political and economic independence.

The two sides expressed deep satisfaction with the results of the talks held, deeming them an important contribution to the cause of strengthening Soviet-Korean friendship, and came out in favor of further improving the two countries' collaboration in the international arena. In their opinion the further development, on a planned basis, of businesslike cooperation between the two countries' foreign ministries and the holding of regular consultations on the most important international issues are particularly useful.

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet government, E.A. Shevardnadze conveyed to Kim Young-nam an invitation to pay an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

FURTHER REPORTS ON MPR DEFENSE MINISTER'S VISIT

Moscow Arrival Reported

PM231426 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Jan 86 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Official Friendly Visit"]

[Text] On 21 January MPR Defense Minister Colonel General J. Yondon arrived in the Soviet Union on an official friendly visit at the invitation of Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense.

At the capital's Sheremetyevo Airport the Mongolian visitor was greeted by Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense, Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister; Colonel General A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; and also Marshal of Engineering Troops S.Kh. Aganov and generals, admirals, and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces.

The welcoming party included Ts. Gombosuren, Mongolian charge d'affaires in the USSR, and Major General R. Gunchin-Ish, military and air attache at the Mongolian embassy in the Soviet Union.

The Mongolian and Soviet state flags were flying at the airport and the two countries' state anthems were played.

Mongolian Defense Minister Col Gen J. Yondon received the honor guard commander's report and inspected the Soviet troops.

Yondon Departs for Novosibirsk

LD232016 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 23 Jan 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Col Gen Jamsrangiyn Yondon, defense minister of the Mongolian People's Republic, has just left Moscow for Novosibirsk. He is in our country on an official friendly visit. At the aerodrome he was seen off by Comrade Sokolov and other officials.

SOVIET-JAPANESE FISHING TALKS RESUME

LD232115 Moscow TASS in English 1941 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 23 TASS -- Prospects for the development in 1986 of cooperation between Soviet and Japanese fishermen in the sphere of fishing operations in the 200-mile economic zones of the USSR and Japan are discussed at the talks that resumed here today.

The aim of the talks is to agree on quotas, areas and schedules of fishing operations by Soviet vessels in Japan's zones and Japanese vessel in the economic zone of the USSR.

The talks are held in the framework of the second session of the Soviet-Japanese fisheries commission set up in accordance with the 1984 bilateral inter-governmental agreement .

The session that opened late last year, was disrupted on the proposal of the Japanese side on January 5.

FURTHER ON KUZNETSOV, DELEGATION VISIT TO INDIA

IZVESTIYA on Departure

PM231449 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Departure of Delegation"]

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by V.V. Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, left Moscow for Delhi 22 January for an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Indian Parliament.

The delegation includes, deputies R.A. Gavrilova, N.V. Goldin, V.A. Koptyug, Yu.A. Manayenko, and V.Kh. Sokol.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture; V.P. Orlov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; A.E. Voss, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities; T.N. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; V.F. Maltsev, USSR first deputy foreign minister, and other officials.

Kuznetsov Issues Statement

PM241225 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "USSR Supreme Soviet Delegation's Arrival"]

[Text] A delegation from the USSR Supreme Soviet, led by Vasiliy Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, arrived in Delhi today on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Indian Parliament.

At Delhi's Indira Gandhi international airport the delegation was met by Indian Vice President Ramaswamy Venkataraman, the leadership of the Indian Parliament, and other officials. Among those greeting the delegation was Vasiliy Rykov, the USSR ambassador to India.

Upon his arrival at the airport, V. Kuznetsov made a statement for the press. The delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet has arrived in India at the kind invitation of your parliament, he said. This is not the first visit by Soviet parliamentarians to your hospitable country. Contacts between the supreme legislative organs of our states have become a good and well-established tradition. We are sincerely pleased at the forthcoming meetings with our Indian colleagues, during which we expect to exchange views on questions of bilateral relations and some topical international problems.

Friendly relations between the USSR and India serve well the vital interests of our countries and the cause of strengthening peace in Asia and throughout the world. In the present complex international situation, meetings between representatives of the USSR and India at various levels play a particularly important role. This of course also fully applies to the emissaries of our countries' legislative organs. We hope that the current visit by a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet to India, and its meetings and talks with Indian representatives will promote the strengthening of our countries' friendship and cooperation in the struggle against the threat of war and for a curb on the nuclear arms race and durable world peace.

Permit me to convey to the inhabitants of the splendid capital of India, to the great Indian people and its leaders, cordial congratulations from the people and the leaders of the Soviet Union on the occasion of the forthcoming national holiday, the 36th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of India. Accept our sincere wishes for progress and prosperity.

Indian Vice President Ramaswamy Venkataraman warmly welcomed the Soviet parliamentarians. We are very happy to receive a Soviet parliamentary delegation in India, he said. Relations between our two countries, he said, are of a special nature. They are based on profound mutual understanding and respect for each other. Friendship between the Indian and Soviet peoples is traditional.

Gandhi Receives Kuznetsov

LD231851 Moscow TASS in English 1820 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] New Delhi, January 23 TASS -- Today Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of India received Vasiliy Kuznetsov, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice-president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, who is currently here at the head of the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation.

Vasiliy Kuznetsov delivered a message to Rajiv Gandhi from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

They had a friendly conversation during which matters of Soviet-Indian relations as well as a number of topical international problems of mutual interest were discussed.

Talks With Parliament Speaker

LD232138 Moscow TASS in English 2059 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] New Delhi, January 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vladimir Baydashin reports:

Today Vasiliy Kuznetsov, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the members of the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation members honoured the memory of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawahar Lal Nehru, and Indira Gandhi by laying wreaths at their Rajghat, Shantivana and Shahti Sthala memorials.

The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation visited the Indian Parliament where they were received by Balram Jakhar, speaker of the House of the People (lower house) of the country's top legislative body.

"The struggle is now under way for the most important thing: to preserve life on earth", Vasiliy Kuznetsov stated during the conversation. "The question today stands in this way: whether the world will go along the lines of 'star wars' or it will embark upon the road of detente". "Everything should be done to bring the world back to the road of relaxation of international tensions," Vasiliy Kuznetsov said. "Unfortunately, the other side -- the United States of America -- has not yet given a reply in essence to the new Soviet proposals. Washington, in words, comes out in favour of peace while in actual fact it is putting through its 'star wars' programme. Deeds, not words, are now essential.

If the United States, as it maintains, is against nuclear weapons, why would not it join the moratorium announced by the Soviet Union on all nuclear explosions? Despite such stand of the USA, we in the Soviet Union look into the future with optimism. We consider that the forces of peace are stronger than those who are busy pushing the world to the abyss of a nuclear war".

"We agree with our Soviet friends that contacts between Soviet and Indian parliamentarians are particularly important now that great activity in international relations is being required from parliaments and, first of all, in the maintenance of peace and removal of the threat of a nuclear war", said Balram Jakhar. "In this connection", he pointed out, "we in India highly appreciate the latest Soviet peace initiatives which have been put forward by General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev".

"The USSR's new proposals are the culmination of the struggle for peace, for ridding the world of nuclear weapons. The proposals deserve universal support, as was recently stated by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of India. History has not yet known such examples when the leader of a great state would come forward with such large-scale peace initiatives. It is now very important that the other side give a positive reply to these proposals of the USSR and discuss them most seriously and constructively at the negotiating table. We particularly welcome the concrete programme, contained in Mikhail Gorbachev's proposals, for disarmament and for channeling funds thus saved into the socio-economic development of peoples", Balram Jakhar emphasized.

Dinner Held

LD232007 Moscow TASS in English 1922 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] New Delhi, January 23 TASS -- TASS correspondents Vladimir Baydashin and Sergey Karmalito report:

Ramaswamy Venkataraman, India's vice-president and chairman of the upper chamber of the national Parliament, tonight gave adinner for a delegation from the Supreme Soviet of the USSR led by Vasiliy Kuznetsov, an alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and first vice-president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

Greeting the delegation, Ramaswamy Venkataraman said that friendly relations between India and the Soviet Union were rooted in the history and traditions of the two countries. He said the memory of how the great leader of the Soviet country Vladimir Ilich Lenin had extended a hand of friendship to the Indian people was held sacred in this country. After India had shaken off the fetters of colonial rule, the friendly relationship between the two countries had developed to reach the point of cooperation at state level.

Today, Ramaswamy Venkataraman said, Indian-Soviet cooperation covered practically all spheres of human endeavour, including economic, social, cultural, scientific and technological fields.

India had always thought highly of efforts made with the good intention of lessening international tension and achieving disarmament, first of all eliminating nuclear weapons. Therefore, there was satisfaction in this country with the fact that a very important beginning had been made at the recent summit meeting in Geneva between Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

"We have come to your wonderful country, dear friends," Vasiliy Kuznetsov, head of the delegation from the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, said in his reply speech, "to make a contribution of our own to strengthening friendship and deepening mutual understanding between our states."

The state of affairs in the world cannot but arouse serious anxiety, he went on to say. Mankind has been confronted with the need to overcome the negative trends which have built up over recent years and clear the way to fostering trust as indispensable ingredient to state-to-state relations. The peoples are awaiting and justly demanding a radical turn for the better on the international scene.

With a view to breaking up the existing trend towards confrontation and directing the development of world processes towards detente and disarment, the Soviet Union several days ago made a far-reaching step, putting forward a number of major foreign policy initiatives. It has proposed a program for completely eliminating nuclear weapons everywhere by the year 2000 and ensuring reliable security for the living and future generations.

The peoples all over the world are increasingly vocal in declaring: Time has come to deliver mankind from fear of the future and draw a line on the policy of dangerous playing with fire, Vasiliy Kuznetsov said. The implementation of the Soviet proposals would make it possible to fold down the nuclear arms race on earth and prevent it from spreading to outer space. It would make for a general lessening of the war danger and for stronger mutual trust and international cooperation. Every measure to limit and reduce arms would be accompanied with a switchover of resources to serve the needs of social and economic development.

The Soviet Union is also firmly bent on securing significant progress in a political settlement in the Middle East, in Central Africa, around Afghanistan, in the south of Africa and in the Persian Gulf. "We are prepared together with other countries to look for just solutions and participate, where need be, in corresponding guarantees. One must not put up with a situation where thousands upon thousands of human lives go up in the flames of so-called 'local conflicts' each of which threatens to escalate into a 'big war'."

ZA RUBEZHOM CITES DRA ARMY OFFICIALS

PM221412 Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 3, 10-16 Jan 86 (Signed to Press 9 Jan 86) pp 12-13

[IZVESTIYA correspondent German Ustinov dispatch: "The Soldiers of the Revolution; An account of the Afghan Army's Heroic Daily Life"]

[Excerpt] Kabul -- According to reliable information, more than 100 depots have been built with the assistance of the Ziaul Haq administration in Pakistani areas bordering Afghanistan to store weapons and ammunition arriving from abroad. On most of the weapons the trade mark has been obliterated. However, Afghan military experts know perfectly well where the specific weapons for the counterrevolutionary gangs come from. Thus the small arms, machineguns, mortars, and recoilless rifles are made at armament factories in China, Egypt, the United States, Pakistan, and Britain; the antitank and antipersonnel mines are of U.S., British, and Italian origin, while radio communication equipment comes from Japan.

On the Pakistani side of the border a whole network of camps has been established providing combat training and training in sabotage and terrorist activities and offering various forms of instruction. The leading cadres of major bandit formations undergo training at Pakistan's higher and secondary military establishments. Special centers have been set up to train ringleaders, instructors, and also military affairs specialists (scouts, antiaircraft gunners, mortarmen, explosives experts, radio operators, and so forth). They can train 55,000 men at any time. All this is part of the undeclared war waged by the international reaction against revolutionary Afghanistan.

...This is why the shooting has still not died down in Afghanistan. At the beginning of December, when major combat operations were under way in five of the republic's provinces, I met with Lieutenant General Nazar Muhammad, DRA minister of defense and candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo. The minister was very busy, so I asked him to answer only one question: How did he assess the year's results?

"According to the official state calendar (solar hegira) adopted in Afghanistan, it is now the year 1364, which will end 20 March. Thus we can speak only about the results of the past 9 months. However, they are quite eloquent. We have carried out successful operations in such strategically important areas as the Panjsher Valley and the Paktia, Balkh, Konarha, and Herat Provinces. Large areas have been cleared of the gangs.

"Western propagandists have frequently claimed," the minister continued, "that our army is weak and incapable of active combat operations. This did not correspond to reality even in the first years after the revolution, still less now. Our commanders have gained experience and the combat skills of our servicemen have increased. There was a time when a section of the population, afraid of the counterrevolutionaries, did not dare to support the army. Now people know that the army is capable of defending them against the dushmans and rendering effective assistance to the population.

"The tasks confronting the DRA Armed Forces are not easy. Take for instance Nangarhar Province on the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan. This is one of the republic's strategic defense areas. The province is densely populated: 300,000 people live in Jalalabad, the administrative center, and another 760,000 in its environs and in outlying villages. The region is multinational -- here Pushtuns live side by side with Tajiks, Nurestanis, the Pasha'i and Khaja'i tribes, and Hindus. There are important economic installations in Nangarhar Province, there is fertile land where subtropical crops grow, and there is also the renowned Jalalabad irrigation complex. Life could be a pleasure!

"But the enemies do not allow the people to work in peace. The border with Pakistan is quite long. There are 67 mountain paths and crossings which date back a hundred years. There are even two motor roads. These communication routes are now used by numerous gangs equipped in Pakistan. Caravans with weapons and munitions use the road and paths to get to the dushmans. And they are accompanied by U.S., Pakistan, French, Egyptian, and Chinese advisers.

"This is why the DRA Armed Forces command has constantly kept sight of the situation in Nangarhar Province this year. The 11th and 9th Divisions carried out a number of successful raids in the province, especially in the area of the Black Mountains and south of Khugiani. Several gangs were routed and arms dumps seized. Similar results were achieved also in a number of other provinces.

"I have just signed an order," N. Muhammad went on, "concerning awards to officers and men who took part in the operation to clear the bandits from northeast Baghlan Province, which borders the Panjsher Valley. Here not only was a large dushman formation routed, substantial trophies were also captured. Just take a look at the list..."

I read: One recoilless rifle; six DShK large-caliber machineguns; 10,000 rounds of machinegun ammunition; four mortars; 36 surface-to-air missiles; 72 surface-to-surface missiles; 179 rocket shells; 33 antipersonnel mines; 16 boxes of explosives; 710 rifles; 1,200 hand grenades...

"And this is only what was seized in battle," the minister emphasized. "Apart from that, our forces managed to discover four arms and ammunition dumps and six food stores. We also destroyed several dushman hideouts and bases. In the past, Masud's gangs were able to stop for a rest here, nurse their wounded, and replenish their military provisions. We have deprived them of these strongpoints."

I noted that the counterrevolutionary military formations seem to have ample supplies of the most modern equipment, judging by military bulletins, Afghan soil in the areas where they are active is veritably bristling with arms and ammunition dumps.

"This is not surprising," the minister replied. "Think about these figures. In 1983 the patrons of the Afghan counterrevolutionaries allocated more than $500 million to their upkeep. The following year the figure topped $700 million. And this year expenditure for these purposes totals the sum of what was spent in the previous 2 years, that is $1.2 billion. It is claimed in the West that the aid given is humanitarian and allegedly intended mainly for Afghan refugees. However, we know very well that the refugees only get the odd crumb out of these astronomical appropriations. The lion's share is channeled directly into the acquisition of weapons and ammunition for the bandit detachments which operate on the republic's territory and also into providing them with transport, food, and clothing."

It is reliably known that of the total funds allocated to the Afghan counterrevolution in 1985, $300 million was supplied by the United States, the FRG, France, Saudi Arabia, Israel, and China exclusively for the purchase of modern weapons. The main contribution came from Washington.

Returning to the year's results, Nazar Muhammad spoke animatedly about the Khowst operation as the most important operation from the strategic viewpoint and one which produced particularly good results.

"However," the minister says, "Comrade Tanay, chief of the General Staff, can tell you more about it. He not only planned it but also personally conducted the combat operations, spending the entire 48 days of the operation with the forces."

Thousands of people took part in the Khowst operation on both sides. But I would pick out two as the protagonists. One of them, Lieutenant General Shahnawaz Tanay, chief of the General Staff of the Afghan Army, is 36 years old. His military career started when he was ...12. A peasant's son from a settlement near Khowst, Tanay entered the Kabul military lyceum. Later he graduated from the infantry college and the annual paratroop courses.

"You did that?" I asked my interlocutor, a smallish, puny man, looking at him in disbelief. "As a civilian I have always imagined paratroopers to be hand-picked giants..."

"Don't I look like one? Nonetheless, it is true!" the general roared with laughter. "When I graduated I was a company commander at first, then battalion commander, and when the revolution came I was in charge of all the Kabul district paratroop forces."

An active participant in the April Revolution, Comrade Tanay was commander of the 18th Division in Balkh Province, the 17th Division in Herat, and the central 8th Division here in Kabul. He became commander of the 1st Corps. And for the past 10 months he has been in charge of the Afghan Army General Staff.

"There is a lot of work at the staff, it seemed strange at first. It is a bit like working in the kitchen -- you cook, and the others have to eat it... A few months passed and I thought that maybe I should taste what I had prepared. The leadership gave permission. And so I embarked on the Khowst operation."

Why Khowst in particular? The point is that the counterrevolution had long been seeking to firmly entrench itself in that area. Khowst city is located right on the border with Pakistan. If the dushmans succeeded in capturing it and the sorrounding territory, reactionary anti-Afghan parties and organizations would be able to unite and proclaims a "free republic" with an "independent government" there. Western special services have been steering them in that direction for several years now. If that happened it would be possible to give the dushmans much greater political and, of course, military aid, via "official" channels moreover.

For 7 years the counterrevolution was building up a powerful military and material base around Khowst -- shooting ranges, training and exercise camps, fortifications, countless arms and ammunition dumps, and clothing, food, and medicine stores. They were preparing to fight for years, to begin by capuring Khowst, and if possible all of Paktia Province, and then to defend their buffer "state."

In spring the bandits entrenched themselves around Khowst. They deployed their heavy guns, rocket launchers, mountain guns, and mortars there, and subjected the city and its environs to systematic bombardment. From Pakistan, Khowst was subjected to constant artillery attacks. The aim was to bombard and starve the city's heroic garrison into submission. General Tanay's plan was designed to thwart this.

...Now it is time to introduce the other protagonist of the events in Khowst. For several years now, a certain Mowlawi (cleric) Jalaluddin, also a local man and the same age as Tanay, has held sway in parts of Paktia Province controlled by the dushmans -- a perfidious, spiteful, and well-prepared enemy, personal envoy and close friend of Hikmatyar Gulbuddin, leader of the counterrevolutionary Islamic Party of Afghanistan. A few years ago, he himself brutally assassinated Fayz Muhammad, DRA minister for nationalities and tribal affairs, luring him into an ambush.

Jalaluddin had quite a few men under arms. His cutthroats committed outrages in the province, killing party members and activists, ruining the peasants, and imposing exorbitant taxes on stall holders. Prices rose sharply in the local bazaars at the beginning of the operation. The bandit leader boasted, "I do not have to spill the blood of my soliders. I will stifle the republican power with an economic blockade..."

On 13 July, when the Khowst operations started, Jalaluddin was on his annual pilgrimage to Mecca. Hearing about the offensive of the people's army, he bought a ticket for the first flight to Peshawar. From there he crossed over to Paktia together with his boss Bulbuddin in order to take charge of the dushman subunits' combat actions.

Four Afghan Army divisions took part in the operation. They closed in from four sides, routing the bandits. Every day General Tanay dispatched good news to Kabul.: The counterrevolutionaries, one by one, were surrounding their fortified areas and military bases. The enemies of the revolution suffered heavy losses. In all, about 2,400 dushmans were killed in the Khowst operation. Twelve of Jalaluddin's deputies and closest associates died ignominiously. And when Gulbuddin himself was wounded in the arm in one of the battles, he fled back to Pakistan together with Jalaluddin.

"The friends of the counterrevolution watched the fall of one of the safest bulwarks of the undeclared war with unconcealed regret and disappointment," Shahnawaz Tanay said. "Seething with hatred toward the soldiers of the revolution and trying to raise the morale of the bandits, they even spread a rumor around the world claiming that the armored vehicle of the chief of General Staff of the DRA Army was blown up by a mine which the 'patriots' had laid specially for him. VOA later tried to justify itself..."

The general took a paper with the text of the monitored broadcast from a drawer in his desk. Here it is:

"The news of the death of the Afghan general was passed to correspondents by representatives of two antigovernment groupings. However, since the events taking place in Afghanistan are veiled in secrecy and Western journalists have no access to the country we must look for more reliable sources of information..."

"The 'veil of secrecy" is just as big a lie as the mining of my armored vehicle," Comrade Tanay went on. "Our press reported the progress of the Khowst operation in detail. Correspondents of all the republic's main newspapers were with the troops and promptly dispatched detailed reporters to Kabul. But the Western press was loath to cite their reportages... ."

DRA EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR GORBACHEV INITIATIVE

LD231546 Moscow TASS in English 1403 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Kabul, January 23 TASS -- The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan has expressed unanimous support for the new Soviet initiatives contained in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement. These initiatives according with the interests of all peoples of the world demonstrate the peaceful character of the USSR's foreign policy, open up new and realistic prospects on the way to peace and preventing the danger of nuclear war, said Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, addressing a meeting of the political Bureau. The Afghan leader stressed that the USSR's readiness for purposeful and constructive talks, the constructive Soviet proposals, if the Western countries display a responsible approach to them, would contribute towards creating an atmosphere of confidence and trust the world over.

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan has expressed support for the USSR's principled stand that regional conflicts should not be an obstacle for taking disarmament measures and stressed the history-making character of the USSR's new initiative concerning the most important problems of the present.

DRA REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL SESSION REPORTED

LD191659 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Correspondent Leshchinskiy report from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] An extraordinary session of the DRA Revolutionary Council has taken place in Kabul, at which matters relating to increasing the size of the supreme organ of statepower were discussed. During this session, 79 new members of the Revolutionary Council of Afghanistan were elected. These elections were conducted in accordance with the decisions of the 16th PDPA Central Committee Plenum. The new members are simple peasants, workers, people involved in culture, art, religious figures, merchants, in a word, the broadest representation. Moreover it is interesting to note that 70 percent of them are not party members. It should be said that for Afghanistan the establishment of peace and national accord is currently the chief task. The party has set a course to resolve all disputed issues by means of constructive cooperation with the broadest strata of the population, and not by means of armed conflict.

[In a courtyard a tribesman identified on screen as V. Nizam, member of Revolutionary Council, speaks in vernacular with superimposed Russian translation] On the day of the elections of new members of the Revolutionary Council, the Afghan press published the statement by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. It must be said that this evoked a response in our hearts, for every person on earth wants peace. For Afghanistan, war is not history, but its present day. People are still dying in our land through the fault of imperialism and the Pakistani military regime. Therefore we support in every way the Soviet Union's aspirations for the establishment of stable peace throughout the world.

U.S. GROUPS URGE MORE AID TO AFGHAN REBELS

LD200054 Moscow TASS in English 1003 GMT 19 Jan 86

["Aid to Afghan Counter-Revolutionaries" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, January 19 TASS -- TASS correspondent Igor Borisenko reporting:

Ultra right-wing quarters in the United States have launched a high-pressure propaganda campaign pressing the administration into scaling up further military and financial aid to Afghan counter-revolutionary outcasts. Special zeal here is shown by an ultra-reactionary organization, Heritage Foundation. The latest issue of the bulletin, BACKGROUNDER, published by that organization calls for more active use of Pakistani territory as the main bridgehead for channelling arms and equipment to bands of counter-revolutionaries. The document also calls for the supply of the newest weapons, including portable anti-aircraft complexes, mortars and anti-tank systems, to Afghan counter-revolutionaries.

The author of the document, James Philips, a member of the Heritage Foundation, proposed to establish an "air bridge" with Afghanistan, using remotely-controlled, pilotless aircraft to deliver arms to the bandits. Such an operation, according to him, will not be too risky, as it will not involve manned flights over Afghan territory.

In addition to the arming and training of bands of counter-revolutionary thugs who sow death and destruction in Afghanistan, the Heritage Foundation calls for scaling up ideological subversive operations against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Specifically, the organization calls for a sharp increase in the broadcasting time of the Munich-based radio stations, "Liberty" and "Free Europe", which spread outrageous lies and malicious slander against Afghanistan.

A special "seminar" sponsored by the Heritage Foundtion in Washington not so long ago is the latest event in a rabid anti-Afghan campaign whipped up in the United States. One of the delegates, executive director of the organization, Americans for Afghanistan, Ralph Magnus, demanded that the bandits staging atrocious crimes against the people of Afghanistan be given the status of a "permanent observer" at international organizations.

One of the ring-leaders of the so-called "Committee for a Free Afghanistan" announced the beginning of a "private" fund-raising campaign. It is planned to hand over the money raised to Afghan counter-revolutionaries. This kind of "private" aid will come as an addition to many million dollar subsidies with the help of which Washington pays for bandit raids of counter-revolutionaries into Afghanistan.

U.S. MAGAZINE 'EXPOSES' IMPERIALIST-BACKED WAR

LD201231 Moscow TASS in English 1150 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] New York, January 20 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Setunskiy reports:

American journalist John Woodford, who has visited the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in a group of foreign journalists, among them Westerners, exposes in the magazine FREEDOM WAYS an undeclared war waged against Afghanistan by the USA and other imperialist fources.

He recounts how their plane landed at Kabul airport the day after another crime had been perpetrated by counterrevolutionary gangs. A missile launched by them hit the home of a young woman with four children. The woman and two children were killed. These actions, the author says, are perpetrated by counterrevolutionary gangs which blow up dams, bridges, schools, power plants and mosques and which use advanced weapons supplied, among others, by the USA, Britain and West Germany.

The journalists were shown samples of these weapons, seized from the bandits at an army museum in Kabul.

Woodford describes press conferences at which bandits taken prisoner faced the journalists. One of them, Abdul al-Wahid, told the journalists that agents of the USA, British and West German secret services had coached him in slandering the People's Government of Afghanistan during on his tour as a "freedom fighter" in Western Europe and recounted how he along with 250 bandits had been trained in terrorism and sabotage during a two-month course. A British "expert" was teaching them to blow up and burn bridges and public buildings. In West Germany the bandit was trained in using remotely controlled weapons. Captured agents of Pakistani intelligence services, infiltrated into Afghan territory, were also put before the journalists.

Despite the undeclared war, the article stresses, the people's power in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is consolidating its positions. Drastic change has taken place in the country under the leadership of the people's democratic party. A land reform, industrialization, a program to eradicate illiteracy and improvements in health care are being carried out, women have been granted equal rights with men and workers can unite in trade unions. The author views as evidence of the expansion of the social base of the April Revolution the fact that representatives of many nationalities and tribes are now active in governing the country.

Woodford says he was especially interested to learn if the revolutionary government was indeed "suppressing Islam," as the American press alleges. According to him, he saw Moslems openly perform their religious rites in Kabul, just as they do in Cairo or Beirut.

TOLKUNOV HOLDS TALKS WITH FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER

LD232314 Moscow TASS in English 1950 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Paris, January 23 TASS -- Lev Tolkunov, head of the delegation of the parliamentary group of the U.S.S.R. now staying here, chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet and chairman of the parliamentary group of the U.S.S.R., today met with French External Relations Minister Roland Dumas.

During the talk held, L. Tolkunov drew attention to the new Soviet peace initiatives laid out in the recent statement by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev. In this connection, Roland Dumas on the whole positively assessed the Soviet proposals.

The sides also exchanged views on questions pertaining to Franco-Soviet relations. R. Dumas said, in part, that bilateral relations are developing positively.

PCF'S MARCHAIS PRAISES GORBACHEV PROPOSALS

LD231413 Moscow TASS in English 1354 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Paris, January 23 TASS -- Appearing in the Antenne-2 TV program "Hour of Truth," Georges Marchais, general secretary of the French Communist Party, spoke highly of the latest Soviet peace initiatives, formulated in a statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and said that France should make a contribution towards world disarmament. Touching upon the domestic situation in France, he stressed that the Communists would make every effort to block the right forces at the elections to the National Assembly in March. The leader of the French Communists pointed out that the pursuit of a progressive political course in France was impossible without the Communist Party, which is one of the leading political forces of the country. He noted in this context that the Communist Party was prepared to cooperate with the other left-wing forces which agreed to pursue a policy in the interests of the mass of the working people. However, Marchais warned, the Socialist Party could not count on the Communists' support for the course which is currently being pursued by the socialists' government and which has already pushed up unemployment and worsened the living standards of the population.

FRENCH PAPER'S CLAIM OF USSR UMEMPLOYMENT DERIDED

PM231424 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[L. Kamynin "Rejoinder": "A Familiar Style"]

[Text] The French paper LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS has presented to its readers a sensational "discovery": it has published a commentary about unemployment in...the Soviet Union. Talk about the pot calling the kettle black...

First of all, let me introduce you to this publication, which has a quite broad readership in Paris. Its editors say that their sole aim is to provide honest information. But LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS has placed itself at the disposal of the forces of reaction, so that what it prints by no means accord with its declared principles.

It is particularly irritated by anything to do with the truth about the Soviet Union. The Paris rag's policy in this case is to pile anti-Soviet lie upon anti-Soviet lie. Evidently they decided to reinforce these lies with another crudely made newspaper canard. How else can one describe the Paris rag's cock and bull stories about the alleged "unemployment" in our country as a result of the setting up of the USSR State Agro-industrial Committee and abolition of the ministries in the agro-industrial complex?

It is the familiar misinformation style: slander presented as axiomatic. LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS cannot confirm its absurd fabrications. Everyone knows that in the Soviet Union the right to work and a job for everyone are guaranteed by the Constitition.

And it is no secret that the situation is quite different in the capitalist countries, where mass unemployment has assumed the character of an incurable disease. In France the army of "superfluous" people is approaching 2.5 million, even according to official figures.

Why does it have to ascribe its own diseases to others? It is an unseemly and futile venture.

CYPRIOT ENVOY TO UN WELCOMES SOVIET PROPOSAL

LD231521 Moscow TASS in English 1441 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] New York, January 23 TASS -- Konstandinos Mousiouatas, permanent representative of Cyprus to the U.N., has described the Soviet proposals on the principles of the Cyprus settlement as far-reaching and comprehensive. The Cypriots particularly highly value the Soviet Government's wish that the Republic of Cyprus should remain an independent, sovereign, territorially integral, united and non-aligned state, he told a TASS correspondent. There is no doubt that the convocation of an international conference on Cyprus, with which the Soviet proposals deal, would contribute towards preserving Cyprus as a single state. This idea in common with the statement that the Cyprus issue should be resolved within the U.N. framework and on the basis of U.N. resolutions, have met with a broad response among the internationnal community, the permanent representative pointed out.

Proposal Circulated at UN

LD231650 Moscow TASS in English 1550 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] New York, January 23 TASS -- The text of the proposals of the U.S.S.R. "On the Principles of Cyprus Settlement and Ways To Achieve It" dated January 21, 1986 has been circulated at the United Nations organisation as an official document of the U.N. General Assembly and Security Council.

FRG PARLIAMENTARIANS PRAISE ARMS PROPOSALS

LD231707 Moscow TASS in English 1618 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Bonn, January 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergey Sosnovskiy reports:

A parliamentary debate has been held at the FRG Bundestag today on the initiative of the SPD group on the question of prohibition of nuclear weapons testing and the stand of the FRG Government on that issue.

Speaking on behalf of his group Hermann Scheer, chairman of the group of deputies from the Social Democratic Party at the Bundestag Subcommittee on Disarmament and Arms Control, spoke highly of the USSR's proposals on the issue of putting an end to all nuclear testing, a moratorium which was unilaterally introduced by the USSR.

The FRG Government would be well advised to act in the spirit of its previous statements and declare in favour of concluding speedily an agreement providing for a full ban on nuclear weapons testing. Yet, H. Scheer stressed, the government remains inactive on these issues, thus renouncing the principles of the policy proclaimed by it. To all appearances, the FRG Government acts so only because the current U.S. Administration has no stake in a total ban on (?nuclear weapons) the MP pointed out.

Speaking in the debate, representatives of the ruling right-wing bloc CDU/CSU were trying to reject the charges made against them. Yet they have failed to furnish convincing proofs that the FRG Government favours not just by word of mouth, but in action an end to nuclear weapons testing, which, as is known, could really reliably close the channels towards the perfection of nuclear weapons.

ITALIAN PRESIDENT CITED ON RELATIONS WITH USSR

LD231427 Moscow TASS in English 1329 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Rome, January 23 TASS -- The Italian magazine REALTA SOVIETICA has published an interview with President Francesco Cossiga of Italy, in which he spoke about a number of important international problems, including the development of East-West dialogue and the Soviet-Italian relationship.

Among other things, he stressed the major significance of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva. The resumption of a political dialogue between the United States and the Soviet Union at summit level after six years has in itself been internationally stabilizing, in particular because the meeting took place after a very alarming period of uncertainty and tension in East-West relations, Cossiga said. He also noted the expressed desire of both sides to hold such meetings openly and regularly as another important circumstance.

The Italian president said that despite the objective complexity of some of the problems discussed in Geneva, his opinion is that that meeting has become a moment of hope: it has opened up a real prospect for a search for greater stability in relations and positive results at talks conducted. The people in different countries were looking eagerly for such a development, Cossiga said, adding: "I can perhaps say that Italy has given this development timely and useful support."

"I am convinced," he said, "that West European countries play an important role in directing dialogue and cooperation with the Soviet Union and our Eastern neighbours along the constructive road. This applies, of course, also to Italy which has always found in the framework of East-West relations stimuli for political initiative and for taking advantage of concrete opportunities for diplomatic actions."

"Carrying on what is an established tradition," the Italian president said, "the USSR has shown special attention to relations with our country. This mutual interest has found expression both in successful bilateral cooperation in various fields and in political contacts which have been businesslike and marked by great frankness, mutual respect and a perfect awareness of the tremendous responsibility lying on the governments of our countries for preserving peace and strengthening security, particularly at this historical moment."

In conclusion the Italian president wished the Soviet people peace, further prosperity and progress which, in his words "the peoples of the USSR deserve especially as in their efforts for them they suffered so many losses in the past and they are continuing to work for them with the same energy also today". "So far as the benefits which bring all humanity, and that is also our peoples, closer together are concerned, I would like to wish that the relationship of cooperation between our two countries also contributes to their achievement," Cossiga said.

COMMISSION WITH FINLAND AGREES ON COOPERATION

LD231146 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1652 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Excerpts] Helsinki, 22 January (TASS)-- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Gorbunov reports: At the recent meeting in the Finnish capital of the cochairmen of the Soviet-Finnish permanent intergovernmental commission on economic cooperation, the draft of a protocol was agreed upon giving more precision to and supplementary and extending the long-term program for the development and deepening of commercial and economic, industrial, scientific, and technical cooperation between the USSR and Finland in the period up ot the year 2000. All the foundations exist for these very distant landmarks. Thus, the volume of trade turnover over the past 5 years amounted to R25 billion, or doubled in comparison with the preceding 5-year period, exceeding by approximately one-quarter the long-term program preliminary outlines. The range of reciprocally supplied goods has been extended and new forms of cooperation have appeared.

The agreement between the two countries on trade turnover and payments for the period 1986-90 and the protocol on reciprocal deliveries or goods in 1986 provides for an expansion of coordinated production, in particular in the sphere of the machine tool and instrument-making industry and the production of equipment for the paper and pulp industry, industrial robots, communication facilities, and special purpose motor vehicles. Questions concerning cooperation in the sphere of joint construction of installations in the territory of the two countries are constantly within the scope of the intergovernmental commission.

CPSU DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR SAN MARINO CONGRESS

LD231525 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1117 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, 23 Jan (TASS) -- A CPSU delegation consisting of R.G. Yanovskiy, rector of the Academy of Social Sciences at the CPSU Central Committee, and A.A. Krylov, senior official of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, left Moscow today for San Marino to take part in the work of the 11th congress of the San Marino Communist Party at the invitation of the leadership of the San Marino Communist Party.

CPSU Sends Greetings

LD231320 Moscow TASS in English 1149 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 23 TASS -- The CPSU Central Committee has sent a telegram of greetings to the delegates to the 11th Congress of the San Marino Communist Party. The Soviet Union, the telegram reads, values relations of friendship which have long existed between the CPSU and the San Marino Communist Party. Much importance is attached in the present-day complex international situation to an understanding, recently stressed at bilateral talks in Moscow, of the need to prevent an arms race in space, to end it on earth, and to stop all nuclear explosions.

SOVIET EFFORTS TO RESOLVE PDRY FIGHTING DETAILED

Delegation Expected in Moscow

GF231913 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 22 Jan 86 P 1, 9

[Excerpt] Moscow -- Reliable sources here have affirmed that Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY [People's Democratic Republic of Yemen] Council of Ministers, expects the arrival of a delegation from Aden within the next few hours to hold negotiations with the Soviet leadership to end the split and the fighting among the ranks of the members of the YSP [Yemeni Socialist Party] Central Committee and the Political Bureau.

The sources affirmed that 'Ali 'Antar and 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il have tightened their control over Aden and that meetings are currently being held between party officials in the governorates and "the collective leadership" in Aden on the issue of observing the nonviolation of the instructions that are issued by the collective leadership, which has taken control of the capital and the radio and television station building.

The sources pointed out that in case of the arrival in Moscow of the delegation, which would represent the collective leadership, and the resolution of matters, Abu Bakr al-'Attas would remain as the head of the government, followed by Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, until the formation of a new government. Even though 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali is one of the supporters of chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, he lives in the same building in Moscow as the prime minister who supports 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il; together they are holding talks with the Soviets, with the participation of DFLP [Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine] Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah.

Reconciliation Sought

JN231525 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1505 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] The Lebanese paper AL-NAHAR cites Arab sources as saying that the USSR is seeking to form a reconciliation committee to halt the civil war in the PDRY. The committee will be made up of four figures from the PDRY: Prime Minister Abu Bakr al-'Attas and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, who did not participate in the fighting in view of their presence in Moscow, and representatives of each of the two warring parties. Al-Nahar also says that President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and the forces that oppose him have expressed readiness to accept the USSR's invitation to visit Moscow and hold negotiations.

Protagonists Invited to Moscow

GF240958 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0925 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 Jan (WAKH) -- Reliable political sources in Sanaa have said that PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, who is at present in Abyan Governorate, has amassed 40,000 fighters and has held a series of meetings with military and political leaders during which he discussed several plans to regain the strategic positions controlled by his opponents in Aden and Lahij.

In remarks published in the Abu Dhabi paper AL-ITTIHAD the sources say that Chairman 'Ali Nasir has issued directives to military and political leaders to expedite drawing up the details of plans to liquidate the rebel forces with the minimum losses possible and not to endanger the life of citizens in the country or inflict more damage on the capital and other parts of the country.

AL-ITTIHAD adds that fierce battles broke out on the evening of 23 January between forces supporting 'Ali Nasir and forces opposing him. Tanks were used in the fighting that took place behind the lines of the rebel forces controlling Lahij.

In an interview with AL-ITTIHAD, PDRY Prime Minister Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, both of whom are in Moscow at present, declared their support for the opponents of Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and asserted that former chairman 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il is still alive and controls the situation in Aden.

Al-'Attas and Al-Dali said that both Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and former Chairman 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il have been invited to Moscow to discuss settling their differences. Al-'Attas and Al-Dali said: "Abd al-Fattah Isma'il has accepted the invitation, but no answer has yet been received from 'Ali Nasir."

In another interview published in the Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN today, Haydar al-'Attas says that according to his information Chairman 'Ali Nasir has been in Sanaa during the past 2 days. He adds: "We are not in touch with him. Moreover, there is no longer a possibility of any dialogue with him although we tried to contact him when he was in Addis Ababa but we did not receive any answer."

Dialogue Not Possible

LD240954 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0810 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Jan (KUNA) -- The Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN cites PDRY Prime Minister Haydar al-'Attas and Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, who are currently in Moscow, as saying that President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad 'Sent his personal guards to physically liquidate the members of the Political Bureau who were present in the conference hall, but the members of the Political Burau were able to foil this conspiracy and most of the comrades were saved."

According to the newspaper, Al-'Attas expressed his resentment at the method used by President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. Dr Al-Dali also said that president Nasir "has deviated from democracy, and the internal events confirm this".

Al-'Attas pointed out that President Nasir Muhammad "according to our information has been in Sanaa for 2 days ago, but we are not in contact with him as there is no possibility now of any dialogue with him in spite of the fact that we have tried previously to contact Addis Ababa, where he was, but we did not receive any reply."

National Conference Hoped For

JN220711 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0605 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] Following eight days of fierce fighting it seems that peace and stability will be difficult to achieve in the PDRY. In spite of the statements of appeasement and reassurance that are broadcast over Aden radio, which is now controlled by the clique opposed to President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, it seems the situation has not been definitely settled in favor of the coupists.

President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad who made a tour outside his country, which included Addis Ababa, is now in a location 200 km east of Aden. It seems he is consolidating his positions and that he has received weapons from Ethiopia. Diplomatic sources in Aden confirm that fighting continues, parjticularly as fighters from the various tribes have joined the armed clashes.

These tribesmen, most of whom are from mountainous areas in the YAR (Yemen Arab Republic] and the PDRY are divided in their loyalty between President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his opponent, former president 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il. The Ta'izz citizens fear that the tribes in the mountains of the YAR will be dragged into the fighting, particularly as 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il belongs to these tribes. If this happens, the tribesmen do not know the meaning of the international borders which were mapped out by the British when they made Aden a British protectorate.

Diplomatic sources in Kuwait say the USSR has established an emergency cell in Ethiopia to monitor the situation in the PDRY closely and that Moscow has not lost hope in bringing an end to the fighting so that it may call for a general national conference that will comprise representatives of all the disputing parties.

'Operation Chamber' Formed

GF221253 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 21 Jan 86

[Excerpt] Special information obtained by AL-QABAS indicates that the Soviet Union has formed an "operations chamber" for a special command with its headquarters in Ethiopia, where a major Soviet official has arrived to closely follow the situation in South Yemen. The information indicated that this emergency command has hurriedly summoned representatives of the conflicting sides in Aden.

The information stated that Moscow's main purpose at the moment is to establish an immediate cease-fire and arrange a general conference comprised of the conflicting political powers in the YSP.

The information did not rule out the possibility that the sudden visit of PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammed to Ethiopia 2 days ago are part of the current Soviet contacts.

The information indicates that Moscow is convinced of the impossibility of resolving the conflict through military means in favor of any of the conflicting sides and that it is necessary to make an effort including all sides to restore normal life to South Yemen to pave the way for the solution of the conflict by peaceful political means.

Soviets Reported Killed

NC231109 Paris AFP in English 1100 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Manama, Jan 23 (AFP) -- Eighteen Soviet technicians have been killed in fighting between rival Marxist factions in South Yemen which began last week, the United Arab Emirates newspaper AL-ITTIHAD reported today.

Citing Arab diplomats, the newspaper said the Soviet citizens were not involved with either side in the fighting between supporters and opponents of President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

Situation Remains 'Tense'

LD231122 Moscow World Service in English 1000 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Excerpt] The situation in South Yemen remains complicated and tense. Vessels of the Soviet Union, Britain, France, and a number of other countries have in the past 24 hours continued to evacuate foreign nationals from that country. With reference to a statement by the captain of a British vessel, the FRANCE-PRESSE AGENCY says that the shooting in Aden began to subside on Wednesday.

The South Yemeni radio in turn underlines in a statement that the current events in the country is an internal problem which should be settled without any interference from the outside. The 10 days of fighting between the two warring groups have caused casualties and large-scale devastation.

'Regrettable' Events Decried

PM231943 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[Pavel Demchenko "Commentator's Column": "Events in South Yemen"]

[Text] South Yemen has been an arena of tragic events in recent days. Although the reports from there are confused and contradictory, they do provide an opportunity to construct a general picture of what is happening: The disagreements within the country's party and state leadership had become so acute that they led to armed clashes, beginning 13 January. The situation has been aggravated by the fact that some military units and ships became involved in the fighting, which thus became fierce and bloody.

The events are bound to give rise to feelings of deep regret, especially when you consider that they are happening in a friendly country, headed by the YSP. In recent years the republic has achieved considerable successes in both the socioeconomic and political plane. But, of course, there have been difficulties: There is the social factor -- the traditional heterogeneity and tribal fragmentation of society inherited from past eras. There are also the subversive actions by foreign reactionary and imperialist forces.

All this has been reflected in the regrettable events of recent days. The need arose to evacuate Soviet and other foreign specialists and representatives. This work is still going on because there is still unrest in Aden and adjoining areas.

The leaders of a number of states -- in particular Syria, Libya, and North Yemen -- have urged the conflicting sides to halt the bloodshed and resolve the disputes by political means. A spokesman for the UN secretary general has quite rightly said that the events in the PDRY are the internal affair of that country.

The South Yemeni people traveled a glorious path of struggle against the British colonialists and won, after which they managed to solve complex internal problems. Now they are making a vigorous effort to overcome the crisis. The Soviet Union advocates the immediate cessation of the internecine clashes and it opposes any attempts at outside interference in the PDRY's internal affairs.

RSA 'COMPLICITY' IN LESOTHO COUP VIEWED

LD231304 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Nadezhda Ryasova commentary]

[Text] In the Republic of South Africa [RSA] the authorities have relaxed the economic blockade of Lesotho. As the French television company TF-1 reports, the RSA is making no secret of its jubilation over the coup that has taken place in Lesotho. Mayak's commentary is given by Nadezhda Ryasova:

Quite a few facts indicate the complicity of the racist RSA in the Lesotho coup that occured on 22 January. The deposed premier, Leabua Jonathan, caused unconcealed irritation in Pretoria since he was a staunch opponent of the apartheid system, expressed support for national liberation forces in the RSA, conducted an independent foreign policy and refused to submit to the diktat of the racist regime. On more than one occasion, Lesotho was subjected to barbarous attacks by the South African military. For many years, the Pretoria regime did its utmost to stir up internal conflict with the ultimate aim of removing a government that was not to its liking.

On 1 January this year, the RSA imposed a total blockade on Lesotho after delivering an ultimatum demanding the extradition of South African fugitives and the dismantling of the military camps of South Africa's African National Congress [ANC]. Leabua Jonathan firmly rejected this ultimatum, declaring that he knew for a fact that there were no ANC military bases in Lesotho. Needless to say, Pretoria too is well aware of that, but there this blatant piece of fiction is regarded as sufficient justification for carrying out a policy of state terrorism, not just toward Lesotho, but also toward other neighboring sovereign states -- Angola, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

The racist RSA uses any methods in its efforts to sweep away the progressive legitimate governments of these countries too: moreover, it received backing from across the ocean. There, under cover of a propagandist line about the need to resolve regional conflicts, plans have been actively prepared recently for further interferring in the internal affairs of sovereign states and for aggravating these conflicts. Accordingly, the U.S. President has again confirmed that he will seek to obtain from Congress considerable military aid for the UNITA terrorist grouping in Angola. As for Lesotho, it is noteworthy that the United States made no response to Leabua Jonathan's appeal to it to compel the RSA to lift the blockade, which he addressed to Washington on the eve of the coup. Now that the Jonathan government has been ousted, the tight restrictions introduced by Pretoria on Lesotho's borders have been abolished.

SOVIET DELEGATION LEAVES FOR SIERRA LEONE

PM231451 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Guests of Sierra Leone"]

[Text] A USSR delegation headed by S. Mukashev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, left Moscow for Sierra Leone 21 January. It will take part in measures connected with Joseph S. Momoh's entry on duty as president of Sierra Leone.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by V.P. Orlov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and other officials. S.I. Conteh, Sierra Leonean ambassador to the USSR, was among the sendoff party.